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The Spectator
"Older than the New York Times"

Former President Bill Clinton speaks on the Hill

by Greta Rosenberger '07
NEWS EDITOR

A staggering number of college and community members arrived on campus Tuesday night and stood in line for hours in near-freezing weather. They were willing to do this to hear the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, the 42nd president of the United States, speak for the first time in the week since his party lost the national election. As this year's Sacerdote Great Names Series speaker, Clinton filled the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House to its 4,500 seat capacity, and 1,100 more watched from closed-circuit televised broadcast locations on campus.

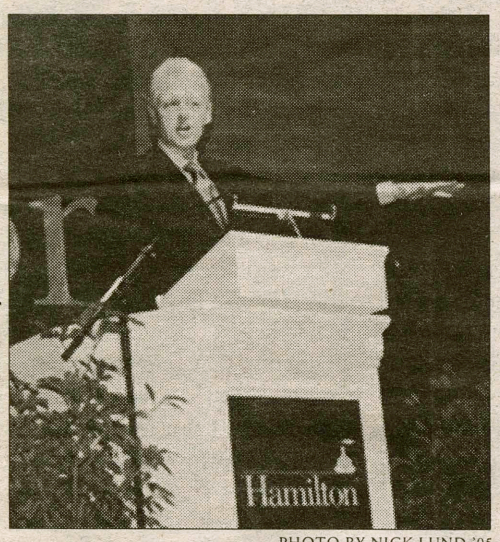

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05
Clinton discussed the results of last week's election.

During the hour and a half long event, Clinton touched on a variety of issues, including his hopes for the unification of a divided nation, gay marriage, the environment, the economy, social security, and bi-partisanship. He began his lecture by mentioning the devotion that his wife, Senator Hilary Rodham Clinton, has for upstate New York, and her determination to support this geographic region: "She's absolutely obsessed with upstate New York. She's working very hard for you, and I believe she's doing a wonderful job."

Clinton then addressed the main topic of his lecture: the previous week's national election. He pointed out that although many were disappointed by the results, there is still cause for celebration. As he said, "Regardless of your party affiliation, you ought to be glad that so many people voted." He also cautioned the audience against the dangers of partisanship: "I do not believe that the Democrats can seek to be a truly national party. They may win some more national elections, but we cannot be nationally competitive unless we feel comfortable talking about our convictions."

The former president also talked about the motivations that drove people to vote this year, saying that "in this election, there was an astonishing turnout among Evangelical Christians who said they were voting on the basis of moral values...A great deal needs to be said about this, and thought about this. I'm not prepared to say everything I think now, but I will say this: I don't believe either party has a monopoly on morality."

Clinton also mentioned that "gay marriage was an overwhelming factor" that contributed to Senator John Kerry's defeat by President Bush. "We have a constitutional amendment designed, I think, to whip people up, to inflame them, make them stop thinking about other issues."

Clinton advocated a return to the traditional system of allowing individual state law and religious doctrine to decide the positions on this issue.

Clinton also tackled another inflammatory issue: abortion. He denounced Bush's "pro-life" attempts to deter mothers from abortion, saying that this only resulted in their turning to more dangerous and illegal methods of what they were going to do in the first place. He suggested that Bush take the route that he chose while he was in office, during which time the rate of abortions declined steadily, and implement policies encouraging adoption and rewarding mothers for their choice.

He also criticized Bush's past economic policies. "Every day, the United States of America borrows from the central banks of China and Japan to cover his tax cut," he said. "Now if you

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Korb lectures on U.S. defense

by Whitney Kimmel '08
ASSISTANT I&I EDITOR

Students and faculty welcomed Lawrence J. Korb in the Kirner-Johnson Auditorium on Wednesday, November 10. Korb, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress and Senior Advisor for the Center for Defense Information, lectured on "National Security in an Age of Terrorists, Tyrants and Weapons of Mass Destruction." His mix of thought-provoking ideas and academic wit challenged the audience to think critically about America's response to terrorism and defense.

He opened his lecture by defining terrorism as a tactic, like guerrilla warfare or kamikaze piloting, instead of a group. He reminded the community that "we're not at war with terrorism and certainly not all terrorists." Some terrorist groups, such as the Irish rebels for example, do not pose a definitive threat to the United States; thus waging a war on terrorism is not only impractical, but unnecessary. Today our enemies are "the radical support

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Information Commons: the new resource for student study

by Jenny Brown '07
NEWS WRITER

Starting this semester, Hamilton students have even more access to information and lirbary services than we did before. With the creation of the new "Information Commons" system, research help will be even more accessible.

"Information Commons provides a service for students that will bring them toward higher education," explained Randy Ericson, Couper Librarian and Director of the Library. Located on the first floor of the Burke Library, the Information Commons synthesizes the assistance of the reference librarians and the Information Technology Services to provide a single point of service for the campus.

Ericson said he began to envision a library improvement project three yeras ago, after visiting other libraries and researching their facilities. When ITS director Dave Smallen became interested in Ericson's proposal, the pair worked together to create the Information Commons, Ericson said.

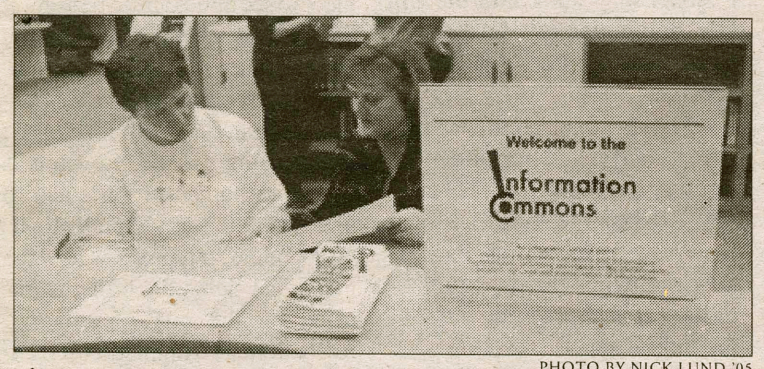

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05
The Information Commons: a new way to research.

Ericson compared the Information Commons to the Hill group, a facility available to Hamilton's faculty. "In the Hill group, reference librarians and ITS work with faculty to integrate technology into the classroom," Ericson said. . In comparison, Ericson said the Information Commons helps students with their own projects to research information and manipulate different ways to present and express their knowledge using technology.

"We are not trying to merge the organization of ITS and the library," Ericson said, "but each side affects the other." Therefore, the Information Commons offers a beneficial collaboration of the library and ITS for students, Ericson said. The Information Commons is

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Rosbottom discusses Pariscape's evolution

by Kathleen McGrory '05
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For centuries, Paris has captured the imagination of its denizens and visitors alike. But where does the allure of the city of lights stem from? Ronald C. Rosbottom discussed just that– the evolution and allure of the "Pariscape"– to a packed house in the KJ Auditorium on Thursday evening.

Rosbottom is a professor of Arts and Humanities at Amherst College, where he teaches a seminar called "Pariscape." This course addresses the relationship between the geopolitical site called Paris and the imaginary site called Paris. In this class, Rosbottom uses photographs, maps, and works of art and literature to help students understand how the French capital is interpreted and understood.

Rosbottom began to describe the Pariscape to members of the Hamilton Community by focusing the attention of the audience on a postcard. Using this a panaromic view of Paris, the Amherst professor pointed out the flat nature of the city. "Paris is a city that is bound to and modeled to the human form,

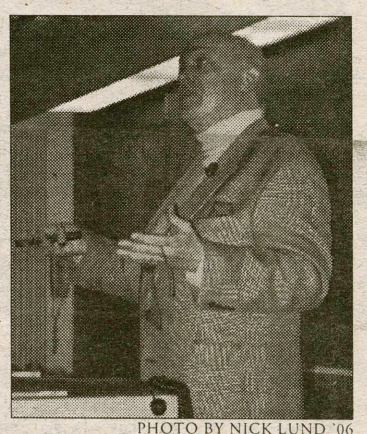
PHOTO BY NICK LUND '06
Rosbottom lectures on the "Pariscape" in KJ Aud.

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Former President gives his thoughts on election results

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think that's good economic policy, go support it. A lot of people apparently do. Maybe it's because I'm from Arkansas and I'm not very sophisticated, but I still think two plus two equals four."

Yet while Clinton spent a significant amount of time on the Hill condemning Bush's strategies, he made a distinct point of addressing the dangers that come from a nation divided by political views. "We have no call to go into the future divided based on who's a good or bad person," he said. "Our common humanity in the end will always matter more."

The event was primarily made possible by the significant gift from the family of Alex Sacerdote, a 1994 Hamilton graduate. Yet most of the extensive organization required to make it run smoothly was orchestrated by Lisa Magnarelli, Director of Student Activities. Magnarelli describes the preparation involved in undertaking such an event: "To get Bill Clinton as a speaker, you start with placing an offer with the agency that represents him. We did this last February, and it's taken the last eight months to confirm that he was actually coming. There was a lot of repetitive back and forth communication to secure a date, and originally we hoped for October, but the presidential campaign schedule was too involved and made an earlier appearance too complicated. From there the next step is getting all the offices and departments coordinated together, which takes months of effort."

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Students stood in line for hours to hear Clinton speak.

Although the energy spent on this project was exhausting, Magnarelli was pleased with the results of everyone's combined efforts. "I think the lecture was fantastic– I can't imagine it running any better," she said. "There were a few snags, but overall we've never had an event of this magnitude where so many people worked so well together, and all in all it ran very smoothly. From our standpoint if there was a glitch it was that one of the doors was closed during admission and some people were turned away. This wasn't deliberate; it was the result of a miscommunication between us and the officials at that door. Over 200 people were working that night to make the event the success it was– from the sound company down to the volunteer ushers."

Director of Campus Security Patricia Ingalls also commented on the multiple levels of cooperation it took to bring Clinton to the Hill: "Lisa Magnarelli did most of the organizing, since she worked with the agency that handles these bookings. Because of Bill Clinton's status there's a contract involved, and the Secret Service were also involved. They had to coordinate their needs with the Sheriff's department and the Kirkland police department. In order to organize an event like this, it takes the whole community, internal and external. Lisa did more than we did– we were just a part of it. We utilized the physical plant, the entire campus safety department with dispatchers, the Sheriff's department, basically everyone. We've been planning this for months, and it physically started on Friday when Clinton's security began arriving. And on top of all that we still had to do our regular jobs."

A lucky few of the Hamilton student body were picked from a lottery and granted he chance to meet Clinton personally. Whit Rothe '06 related his experience meeting the former president: "Meeting Clinton was an honor and a privilege to say the least. I wasn't nervous, but I was definitely excited, as I had never shaken the hand of a president before. I told him that I enjoyed "The Final Days," a movie he starred in for a White House dinner, but he didn't seem to remember what that was. I guess after eight years as president and decades as a public servant, a small movie that they probably shot in a few days has drifted in his memory, but I was satisfied to tell him that, and he gave me a warm smile. He gave a wonderful speech and I am happy that our paths crossed, even for the briefest of moments."

President Clinton was the fourth former head of state or prime minister to speak at Hamilton as part of the series as the fourteenth in a long line of distinguished Great Names speakers at Hamilton College.

National security focus of Korb's lecture

*from **Korb**, page 1*

ers of the Jihad," says Korb, fighting against our policies and creating instability in the Middle East.

He offered three solutions to threats on National Security: preemptive war, traditional deterrence and containment, and cooperative multilateralism.

He began by discussing America's present tactic of preemptive warfare. This tactic should be used only as a truly preventative means. As Korb stated, "the real debate isn't about preemptive warfare, it's about prevention of war. If you want to wage preventative war, you had better have excellent intelligence about the threat you claim may come in the future."

Although America does not need legitimacy from the rest of the world to wage war, without the support of the international community, America would not be able to handle any unanticipated problems. He used the Gulf War as an example of ideal preemptive war. With contributions of more than 200,000 troops and almost exclusive funding from the UN, one can see the differences between America's present "War on Terrorism" and, according to Korb, a truly preemptive tactic that had both the backing of the global community as well as a strong cause.

Instead of focusing on military superiority, he suggested America consider the traditional deterrence and containment tactic. Korb feels, "in a situation where states are involved, there are leaders who want to stay in power." These are the people America should deal with. Using a ruler's desire to uphold his regime, the United States could strategically negotiate methods of containment within the state. "Even with the best of intentions, dealing with an enemy in an unnecessary way is wasting resources," Korb stated. By negotiating without weapons, America can save money, resources and lives.

His final proposition was cooperative multilateralism. By sharing intelligence forces and rallying together with other countries, it would be possible to dry up the financial wells of rogue nations, forcing them into submission. For this to work, however, "America cannot turn a blind eye to failed states like Sudan," which, as Korb pointed out, can become havens for terrorists. By contributing money and effort to other countries, America will no longer be seen as a "holding force," but as a liberator, backed by the global community.

Before opening the auditorium to questions, he closed his speech by stating that our presence in the world can not be one-sided; we need to stay involved with other countries' policies and work with the world, not only when it is convenient for us, but when it is for the good of the world.

Information Commons unites ITS, Burke library

*from **Information**, page 1*

available from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays.

New facilities are an additional product of the Information Commons. Elaborate new furniture as well as new computers and other technologies await the disposal of the Hamilton Community, Ericson said. The configuration of the furniture encourages student collaboration, he added. For example, according to Ericson, the curve of the desks and the extra chairs in the computer area allow multiple students to work together at the same computer screen.

Group study is a theme that Ericson continues to integrate into the library. "The Library was built in 1972, and the study areas were designed for individual study," Ericson said. However, he wants the library to have different types of areas for studying, including places where multiple students can work together.

For other long-term library improvements, Ericson discussed creating a facility that would better house the rare books and special collections of the library. "We need a facility that will provide easy availability of these collections to students, faculty and classes," Ericson said. Right now the collections are hard to access, and Ericson would like them to be available for research or pleasure.

Also, Ericson discussed the shelving capacity of the library. He said that in six to eight years the library's shelves will be filled, and this is another reason expansion is necessary.

ALEX, the card catalog, also expects upcoming improvements. The library staff is working to develop a federated search on Alex that will allow students to search multiple databases under the same subject at once.

Rosbottom lectures on Parisian identity

*from **Paris**, page 1*

such that none of the buildings are build higher than six or seven stories," he described. "Except for two structures."

The two structures: the modern Tour Montparnasse and the landmark Tour Eiffel.

In a historical sense, Rosbottom believes that the Eiffel Tower represents much more than the French Revolution. The iron structure also represents the "Haussmanization" of Paris– the 19th century push of civic planner Georges-Eugène Haussmann to rebuild the capital city. Haussmann was commissioned for this work in 1853 by Napoleon III, the president, and later emperor, who wanted more than anything to modernize the city.

Under the administration of Napoleon III, Haussmann began tearing up and reconstructing the city, with the intent of cleaning-up and modernizing Paris's streets. "In 20 years, Haussmann directed the largest urban renewal project in history," said Rosbottom. "And until the Big Dig got underway in Boston, Haussmann's was the most expensive."

Haussmann created safer streets, better housing and more sanitary communities. He constructed the large, long tree-lined boulvevards for which Paris is now renowned, enabling many of the cafes to protrude out into the public space.

Further, Haussmann embellished the landscape with street furniture "to make the streets seem as if they were an extention of the burgeoise apartment." In the age of the French Empire, Haussmann was determined to make Paris an imperial city.

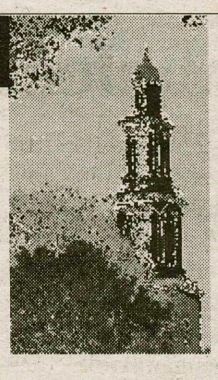
As a result, Rosbottom argued, Paris began to become more of a stereotype than a protctype - a theme park of sorts. Although in the 19th century Paris had been the cultural capital of the world and a great player in the arts, by the mid-20th century, the city has become entirely different. "Paris was now a place to see things and to be seen. It was no longer a place of ideas, but rather a place of industry and suburbs," Rosbottom said.

As early as the time of Haussmann, artistic movements sought to humanize Paris and to undermine the city's pretentions. "A lot of the art represents how the individual fights the order as implied by the city," explained Rosbottom. To highlight used examples ranging from Claude Monet's "Gare St. Lazare" to Charles Baudelaire's "The Swan."

"The artists were trying to cope with this massively changing environment," said Rosbottom. "At this time, Paris was becoming the city of the machine."

These and other influences have made Paris into both a mythic, but very real, city, Rosbottom said.

IVORY TOWERS



THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Colleges Frustrated by Drinking Deaths

Colorado(AP) — It's a sad but recurring campus story: This autumn, students are again drinking themselves to death.

Colorado State student Samantha Spady had consumed as many as 40 drinks when she was found dead at a fraternity house in September.

Lynn Gordon Bailey Jr., Gordie to his friends, had been taken to the mountains near the University of Colorado with fellow Chi Psi fraternity pledges and told not to leave until several bottles of whiskey were finished.

At a University of Oklahoma fraternity house, Blake Hammontree had a blood-alcohol content more than five times the legal limit. Bradley Barrett Kemp of the University of Arkansas had downed a dozen beers and, friends said, possibly other drugs.

Those deaths — three of which have been officially ruled alcohol poisoning — are only the most prominent. The vast majority of the estimated 1,400 alcohol-related deaths each year among college students come in automobile accidents and go largely unnoticed.

The episodes leave college leaders with a persistent question: Is there anything they can do?

"I don't feel hopeless. I do feel frustrated at times, because the problem does continue," said Thomas Burish, president at Washington & Lee University in Virginia, a school that lost two students in an alcohol-related automobile accident in 2000.

"No college president I know of says what he or she is doing is solving the problem."

Dangerous drinking has been a feature of campus life since medieval Europe. Experts say it's simply inevitable that alcohol will be one way college students choose to push the boundaries of their newfound independence.

AP

And it's inevitable that some, with nobody to make them stop, will go too far. But college presidents interviewed recently insist they aren't helpless. While tragedies are inevitable, they believe the policies and tone they set save some lives.

"What a college president can do is affect the atmosphere and climate," said Thomas Hearn, who has been actively involved in alcohol issues during his long tenure as president of Wake Forest University.

"We think of it as a cultural, not a local, problem. We're not going to solve it by anything we do, but we will have some measurable effect depending on how far we go."

But will any anti-drinking programs work consistently? The evidence is mixed at best.

High School Political Debate Leads to an Assault

APPLE VALLEY, Minnesota (AP) — Three high school students, one allegedly armed with a bat, were charged with attacking a pro-President Bush classmate after he reportedly said only gays would support Sen. John Kerry.

"It's a good thing to see young people interested and excited about politics," said Dakota County Attorney James Backstrom. "It's obviously very disturbing to see this kind of violence over it."

The 17-year-old was assaulted last Thursday in the high school parking lot following a class discussion about the election, authorities said. He was treated for cuts and bruises and released.

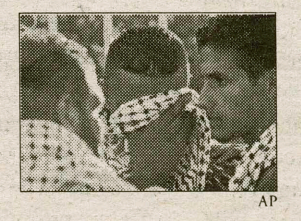
The alleged assailants have all been charged: one with felony assault — because he allegedly went to his car to get a bat during the assault, prosecutors said — one with misdemeanor assault and one with disorderly conduct.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Arafat Successors Picked; Questions Remain

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Palestinians at home and abroad wept, waved flags and burned tires Thursday in an eruption of grief at the death of Yasser Arafat, the man they consider the father of their nation. The quick appointment of successors did little to dispel the huge question marks now hanging over Mideast peace efforts.



AP

Although Arafat's death at 75 led some world leaders to talk about the possibility of a new era, the outlook was also shadowed by fears of a chaotic transition and a strengthening of Islamic militants.

The burial arrangements in themselves showed how disrupted the region is. The international funeral was to be held in Egypt, because few Arab leaders would travel to Israeli-controlled Palestinian land; Arafat was to be buried in the West Bank town of Ramallah because Israel refused to approve interment in Jerusalem; and most mourners from the Gaza Strip would be barred from traveling across Israeli territory to Ramallah, a security official said.

Workers in Cairo scrambled to lay new carpet and mow the lawn at a small mosque near the airport where dozens of foreign dignitaries will honor the Palestinian leader in a modest ceremony Friday morning, before Arafat's body is flown to Ramallah for a burial service.

U.S. Launches Second Phase in Fallujah

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) — U.S. forces backed by an air and artillery barrage launched a major attack Thursday into the southern half of Fallujah, trying to choke Sunni fighters in a shrinking cordon. The military estimated 600 insurgents have been killed in the offensive but said success in the city won't break Iraq's insurgency.

The military said 18 Americans have been killed and 178 wounded in the Fallujah campaign, now in its fourth day, along with five allied Iraqi soldiers killed and 34 wounded. Staff at the main U.S. military hospital in Europe, at Landstuhl, Germany, were bringing in new beds to deal with a stream of wounded.

In northern Iraq, violence escalated dramatically in Mosul, the country's third biggest city, amid a campaign of stepped-up attacks by guerrillas aimed at diverting U.S.-Iraqi forces from Fallujah.

Gunmen in Mosul attacked and overwhelmed police stations and battled U.S. and Iraqi troops around bridges across the Tigris River, the military said. A Kurdish official said some Mosul police were cooperating with the militants.

Blair to Press Mideast Peace to Bush

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Tony Blair, flying to Washington on Thursday for talks with President Bush, said the international community must make peace in the Middle East its highest priority.

Blair has publicly declared that he is seeking a renewed U.S. commitment to the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and the death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Thursday has created what many see as an opportunity for fresh efforts.

"That goal of a viable Palestinian state alongside a secure Israel is one that we must continue to work tirelessly to achieve," Blair said, reacting to Arafat's death.

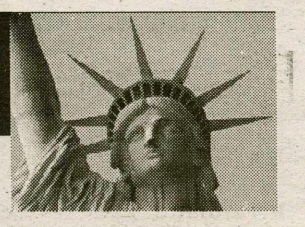
"Peace in the Middle East must be the international community's highest priority. We will do whatever we can, working with the U.S. and the EU (European Union), to help the parties reach a fair and durable settlement," he said in London.

Blair left later Thursday aboard a chartered British Airways jet for two days of meetings including Bush's first with a foreign leader since his re-election last week.

Briefing reporters during the flight, Blair's official spokesman said one of Britain's goals was to revive the stalled "road map" peace plan.

"It's important that we get the strategy right and then engage the players in such a way that they do not feel that we are imposing something on them, that they do not feel we are saying, 'Take it or leave it,'" he said on condition of anonymity.

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Troops Become U.S. Citizens on Veterans Day

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Marine Cpl. David Antonio Garcia stood on the deck of an aircraft carrier Thursday and was sworn in as an American citizen - after already serving under the U.S. flag in Iraq.

The native of Mexico was among 80 sailors and Marines from 25 countries - from Canada to Syria - who became citizens in a Veterans Day ceremony aboard the USS Midway, a reward for putting their lives on the line for their adopted country.

The ceremony, watched by more than 100 cheering relatives, came as the nation observed Veterans Day with about 160,000 troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan - some of them locked in fierce house-to-house fighting in Fallujah.

"I wouldn't want to compare myself to World War veterans or Vietnam veterans," said Garcia, 21, who was with combat engineers who cleared the path for tanks to roll into Iraq. "But I feel some of what they must feel today. I know what it's like to leave loved ones and not to know if you will come back."

The citizenship ceremony was one of dozens of events held nationwide to celebrate Veterans Day, a holiday that has taken on added meaning in the last three years after wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Elderly Veteran Killed in Mass. Parade

WHITMAN, Mass. (AP) — An 80-year-old veteran of World War II was killed Thursday morning when a van backed over him as he prepared to march in a Veterans Day parade.

Witnesses said William Hammond, captain of the parade's color guard, was lining up with fellow veterans at the start of the parade route when the van struck him.

The van, owned by the local Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter, was driven by a close friend of Hammond. He was taken to a hospital to be treated for emotional distress.

"It's devastating," said Richard Slowey, adjutant of VFW Post 697. "Bill is a very warm and very kind person."

The Army veteran, who served in the infantry, had fought in the Battle of the Bulge, according to Robert Wessa, the post's junior vice commander. He was a past commander of the post and stayed active, traveling to a school with Wessa last week to talk about Veterans Day.

Ga. Evolution Dispute Embarrasses Some

ATLANTA (AP) — First, Georgia's education chief tried to take the word "evolution" out of the state's science curriculum. Now a suburban Atlanta county is in federal court over textbook stickers that call evolution "a theory, not a fact." Some here worry that Georgia is making itself look like a bunch of rubes or, worse, discrediting its own students.

"People want to project the image that Georgia is a modern state, that we're in the 21st century. Then something like this happens," said Emory University molecular biologist Carlos Moreno.

The federal lawsuit being heard this week in Atlanta concerns whether the constitutional separation of church and state was violated when suburban Cobb County school officials placed the disclaimer stickers in high school biology texts in 2002. The stickers say evolution should be "critically considered."

Earlier this year, science teachers howled when state Schools Superintendent Kathy Cox proposed a new science curriculum that dropped the word "evolution" in favor of "changes over time."

That plan was quickly dropped, but comic Jimmy Fallon still cracked wise on "Saturday Night Live": "As a compromise, dinosaurs are now called `Jesus Horses'."

Those who support the Cobb County stickers testified this week that they are aiming for a more open-minded education for students.

"I think the (evolution) theory is atheistic. And it's all that's presented. It's an insult to their intelligence that they're only taught evolution," said Marjorie Rogers, the parent who first complained about the biology texts.

Insights and Ideas

Survivor: Sacerdote style

by Britten Chase '05
I&I EDITOR

Wow. I'm so glad you all made it back. I guess I can only hope that all fingers and toes remained intact after surviving the numbing cold for hours upon hours on end.

Some people argue that the Sacerdote Great Names Speaker Series serves no greater purpose for the Hamilton Community; its simply a way for the college to get itself some good publicity. I disagree. The Sacerdote Series is not only for college publicity, it is semi-mandatory bonding time.

Think about it. Of course everyone was going to go to Clinton. To those that didn't...well...better luck next time a former president comes to give a speech approximately four feet from where you live. To those that got turned away, perhaps you just weren't prepared to sacrifice valuable study time and semi-valuable body parts.

So Sacerdote was good and all, but the line to get in was really where true Hamilton bonding came into play. Students, faculty, staff: no one was better than anyone. We were all waiting in the exact same line. To everyone that got into the dinner with Clinton and not only didn't have to stand in line, but also got well...dinner...and then good seats, I have only one thing to say: Sigh.

Seriously though, if Sacerdote didn't exist, when else are we all going to get together and stand around in each other's company for excessive excessive amounts of time with absolutely nothing to do? And then...learn that it was going to be an even longer time than what we first imagined?

I know I made friends. We had a good rotation going of one person stand in line, one person stand inside to stay warm, two people go to Commons to get hot chocolate for everyone, and one person run back to dorms to find more socks or gloves or anything to save us from the biting cold. Honestly, if I was a creature without fingers or toes it wouldn't have been bad at all.

But I'm not. So, like everyone else, I got into the habit of flexing and unflexing the toes (motto: rally round the big toe), walking back and forth on the quad, blowing on my gloves, and realizing that my gloves are windproof and that it wasn't doing a bit of good. Yet I couldn't stop trying. It could have meant death.

For those of us that waited, we were rewarded with a semi-decent seat (read: awesome view of jumbo-tron) and an hour and a half of more waiting. For those of you that didn't wait and then cut in line, I have a little piece of information for you to look forward to: The deepest circle of hell (and I mean HELL) is reserved for betrayers, mutineers, beernappers and every single person that cut in line yesterday. You were standing with your friends? Yeah right, you don't have any friends.

Have a nice day.

Ok, so sweet. Now we're all sitting down, and there are only 86 minutes left until our speaker appears from thin air. The updates from the nice computer-woman-speaker-thingie kept updating us: The speaker was coming soon, the speaker was coming soon-ish, the speaker was coming extremly-somewhat-soonish, the speaker was coming any minute now, the speaker was coming any minute now...soon-ish, the speaker was coming ANY SECOND NOW SO SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP.

And then of course we hailed the conquering hero, the one that saved us from Newt, the greatest person in the history of the universe (the greatest universe ever (it's huuuuuuuuuuge))....oh no wait, it's President Stewart.

Awww.

But no matter your beliefs or party affiliation, you have to admit: Clinton is the man. The speech and the question-and answer session showed that he is definitely ridiculously brilliant. The main difference between our current president (Kerry (read: denial)) and our former president is that our current president says...something. And it doesn't necessarily sound brilliant, or even...well...right...but it's the way it is. When Clinton talks it's absolutely right. Unfortunately it's just not the way it is.

The end of the speech brought on the next Survivor at Hamilton challenge. 4500 people who haven't eaten since birth: what to do? Dining halls are closed. The mass exodus is trapped on campus. There is no food anywhere. All that hard work of getting good grades, going to a good college, standing in line to see a good man, all for nothing because now we are most definitely doomed.

After defeating the cold and endless mind games of when exactly the door would open, 4500 extremely hungry people poured out of the field house at the exact same time. As brilliant as it would have been to open Commons or even a hot dog stand, unfortunately our only dining options were either waiting back in line at the Diner, or hunting down that deer that wanders around campus and roasting him over a fire on Minor field while we thanked the Gods for letting us live to see another Sacerdote Speaker.

But not till next year.

What happened to the Republican Party?

by Derek King '07
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Old Southern Wing of the Democratic Party has taken over what used to be the Republican Party. Gone is the platform of less government and states' rights, replaced by a nanny state for white, bigoted, right-wing members of the Southern Baptist Convention. In the last four years, President Bush has forgotten his 2000 election platform which advocated smart sanctions for Iraq, criticized the Clinton Administration for over-extending U.S. forces abroad and endorsed less government spending. Today he is funding (or actually not-funding) an $80 billion invasion of Iraq and an unfunded mandate forcing states to spend millions of dollars on education while still leaving many children behind. The American military is weakened because recruitment and reenlistment are down.

On Tuesday, November 2, 2004, Republicans all across America were deceived into thinking that their presidential candidate was reelected and that members of their party won an increased majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives. This overwhelming "victory" was due in large measure to support from evangelical "Chirstians," especially in swing states. The Republican Party's senior campaign strategist, Karl Rove, has appealed to the Christian Conservative "base" of the "Republican" Party be endorsing a shift to the extreme right. In this most recent election, Rove encouraged the President to advocate a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage and to oppose civil unions.

In addition to its radical stance on gay marriage, pseudo-Republicans won the South largely by polarizing the abortion issue and endorsing right-wing candidates. Most notably, Jim DeMint, a newly-elected "Republican" Senator from South Carolina, said during his election campaign that neither a pregnant woman living with her boyfriend nor "anyone practicing homosexuality" should be allowed to teach in public schools. Tom Coburn from Oklahoma advocates the death penalty for doctors performing abortions. The President, in our new post-September 11 world, allowed an assault-weapons ban to expire. Dick Cheney once voted against a national holiday for Martin Luther King Jr. All of these pseudo-Republican candidates favor making states pay for "No Child Left Behind." The pseudo-Republicans also favor massive expenditures on deployment of a "Missile Defense Shield" which can't even destroy nuclear warheads in tests where missiles carrying them were tagged with a special radio signal. (In a real nuclear attack by say, Iran, which will soon have nuclear weapons because of the President's inability to reach an agreement ending its uranium-enrichment program, several missiles would release decoy warheads to confuse the system.) While real Republicans favored less government, all of these right-wingers support provisions of the PATRIOT Act that allow the government to monitor what books Americans check out of libraries and to search homes without notifying the occupants.

Larger government, bigoted social agenda? Wait a minute: this doesn't sound like the Republican Party of Senator John C. McCain and Rudolph Guliani, much less Abraham Lincoln. Back in the 1950's and early 60's these candidates would never have been Republicans. Pseudo-Republicans like Jim DeMint have pulled the wool over the eyes of the Republican leadership, but some Americans remember the era before the Civil Rights movement. We still know a bigoted, ignorant, fiscally irresponsible, "tax and spend", Southern Dixiecrat when we see one. Forty years ago, these politicians would have supported Strom Thurmond's run for the White House. On November 2, the Republican Party of John McCain and most Republicans-who stand for a stronger military and smaller government-suffered the worst defeat in the history of American politics. It is unsurprising that over fifty per cent of voters in New Hampshire voted for Kerry, although the Sate is almost 60% Republican. To the rest of the Republican Party: when will you guys get the message that your party has lost touch with reality and itself? What will it take for you to recognize the stench of an unreconstructed Southern Democrat and nominate candidates who stand for the values of America?

Got Thumbs?

Wanna use them?

I&I wants you to write!

email bchase for further info.

Editorial

The Spectator

The Spectator
"Older than the New York Times"

This editorial could very well be about how cold we all were on Tuesday. Indeed, it did cross most of our minds in that line to see President Clinton speak that we'd like to devote a few hundred words to the wonders of hypothermia. But then, amazingly, the former president lived up to his rockstar reputation and impressed us all enough to make Siberia itself seem worth it.

Clinton's presence split the line between entertainment and substance nicely. Just enough pomp, formality, and oval office grandure contrasted with rock concert lighting, standing ovations, whoops and hollers, and even autograph seekers at the end. Even President Stewart giggled as if she was introducing a Beatle. And like every really good politician, he made sure he greeted everyone working or waiting afterwards personally. He even had quite a bit to say, and said it well.

Clinton's visit, along with other with impressive speakers and campus events this semester have really put Hamilton in the national spotlight. Young Han '06 has appeared all over the news in his attempt to mobilize college voters. Han's not the only one getting interviewed: Cheng Li and Phil Klinkner seem to have the ear of quite a few major news services.

Further still, just last week, Craig Moores and Lydia Kiesling were interviewed by Fox News when the network profiled the Varsity Streaking Team. The team was also the highlight of a *New York Times* article, which featured a large photograph of their recent victory against Colgate. Sure they're crazy, but it's cool, and great publicity.

We got Clinton at arguably the most influential point he's been at since he was president, and we'll also get to see one of Bela Fleck and the Flecktones's last performances in the Annex right before their impending hiatus.

This is great stuff. Hopefully this positive energy will keep going. We finally seem to be on the verge of having the national visibility the Administration so desperately craves, from nothing other than the interests, antics, and hard work and character of our students and alumni . You can't buy publicity like we've gotten lately, so let's ride it all out and have some fun.

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Fighting the Freshman Fifteen

by Liz Pinnie '08
I&I CONTRIBUTOR

Fighting the Freshman Fifteen: Chicks, you know what I'm talking about. Dudes, look out- you unknowingly witness the war every day. Battles appear across campus at crucial locations: McKewan, Commons, Opus, and The Diner. It is full out- so be careful, and watch that you don't get hit by a stray freshman freaking out over her waist.

The battle begins as you enter your eating venue of choice, placing yourself in the middle of the mayhem we know as feeding hour at Hamilton College. Quietly weaving in and out, backpack close, the Unknown Soldier surveys her surroundings. Pizza: ooooh yessss. But no. No. No. No! Showcase Showdown: A chance at glory. A chance to win a medal for finding something healthy that's - gasp— good too! Here's a hint: most attempts end in failure. Of course, a glimpse at the Showcase means I have to walk past the fries. I think "Pull yourself together man!", and wince as I neatly and sharply turn on my heel. Suddenly I am face to face with the hidden enemy- the salad bar. The Salad Bar: it's the opportunity of a lifetime. With it comes dessert tonight and lettuce in my teeth. The trick is to keep your eyes on the prize as you pick up a plate and beeline for the big bowls of lettuce. If you don't, a spy might intercept you and walk by with a plate full of eggs, tuna fish and couscous. And voila! The thought of the salad bar now makes me nauseous. My last chance for survival- I can see it not so glimmering and pressed up against the wall in the distance- the sandwich bar. Renewed and ready to test my skills, I zigzag my way through the starving masses toward it, contemplating my next move, being careful to not get in the way of trays filled with ten slices of pizza, fries, and a cucumber. I am almost there, on my way to lunchtime glory, when suddenly I am ambushed. Six girls with plain lettuce, tofu and a side of cottage cheese surround me. They hit hard and are merciless. Flicking waves at everyone, flipping their perfect hair, reveling in their healthy lunch, they prance around, excited that there was cauliflower today. I flounder and almost go down, but pull it together and put up my white flag. I stagger back to the salad bar. Four unsatisfying minutes later, I move towards the drinks and try not to think of the horrors I just saw...the mounds of tuna sitting stagnate in a pool of water, the yellow cucumbers, the olives mushing themselves into paste. But I am a soldier, and so I soldier on. Marching towards the drinks, in an act of defiance against one of the highest ranking officials in the fight against fat (the Nalgene), I decide I will have Pepsi. Yes, you heard me right. Pepsi. Take that twenty glasses of water a day people. Just as I pull my limp arm up to this fountain of life, Miss Two Carrots and a Piece of Celery breezes by. I remind myself that this war can only be won inch by inch, and so press down the water lever instead. Yummy! Super excited (and I'm being sarcastic), I begin to make my way through the encampment of warriors. As I sit down, I want to think that I've fought the battle and won. I push aside thoughts of just grabbing everything bad for me and retreating to the hidden trenches upstairs, where I could gorge myself into oblivion in solitary confinement. Shoving some lettuce in my mouth, I push out that evil thought and try to pretend that I'm really enjoying it.

Two bites later, I throw my fork down in disgust, contemplate how I am doomed because of my recent hatred toward salad, and get up to get something to drink. I catch the briefest of glimpses of the ice cream, and like the Pied Piper, it calls to me, beckoning me to come dig into its Piece of Cake. I resist its sweet song, and pull myself away. Others are not so lucky. Stronger because of my recent resistance, I grab a cup, and am pushed by the tides into the dessert corner. Now here I have to say, Commons, you are no help to our cause. Every time I want a drink, I have to pass the glorious piles of fudgy brownies and cookies. They lure you in as you say, "I just want to look at them." Yeah right. More like you just want to grab the whole wire basket and run out the door screaming, "They're mine! They're all mine!" Instead, the soldiers, and today I, grope the top shelf and grab a mealy apple. Dessert. Woo. Further depressed I trudge back to our table, apple in hand. Suddenly, I have a spark of genius. Ready for my secret mission, I trek back to the food area and rendezvous with my party at the door. As we step into the cold, I award my fellow soldiers some spoils of war. Rice Krispie Treats. Smiles finally on our faces, we revel in how good they taste, and laugh about our inevitable demise.

The next Roma's?

by Amanda Pooler '08
I&I WRITER

If you're like me, Commons, McEwen and even the Diner are starting to get pretty old ... and I'm only a freshman. I can't imagine being a senior and eating these same entrees year after year. Though the food is by no means bad, pop culture has spoiled us into wanting a variety of choices. Last Tuesday, I was one of the many who lined up at four hoping for good seats at the Clinton presentation. It wasn't until five hours later, at 9:15, that my friends and I departed with big smiles, but very empty tummies. On the way back, we decided to order Chinese food, a treat for us. However, two full hours later, when the food still hadn't arrived, we weren't any less hungry. The same scenario has happened to me several times so far on campus. One gets hungry for something different, orders food and then must wait a prolonged period of time before they can pay for the overpriced food, which is barely even hot anymore.

However, I propose a new alternative: I think Hamilton should have some sort of student-run pizza parlor on campus. I've heard that ELS is soon to be converted into a student union of sorts, and I think a pizzeria would be a logical and lucrative inclusion to this plan. The pizzeria could offer more on-campus jobs to students, and it would clearly be more efficient. If the pizzas were made on campus, they'd have to travel a much shorter distance with "runners" delivering them. These runners could get almost anywhere on campus within ten minutes, whether walking or riding a bike. Also, the pizzas could be included on the meal plan; for example, one medium pizza could be equivalent to a meal plus one bonus meal (two meals total).

Although it may not be "Roma's-quality," I think the reduced cost and expedited process is more in tune with the needs of college students. So next time you order out, time your order and consider whether this on-campus idea may be worth a shot.

Thumbs Up Thumbs Down Who Cares?

- Futbol Teams: Saturday, 1 pm, and we're drunk

- The campus' newest addition 9-months from now: Joan Hinde Clinton

-Streaking team + Fox News = unholy Alliance

-Ratemyprofessors.com... the BEST way to choose a course

- "I don't care if you're 12, as long as you tell people I'm 17." -Senior linebacker

-The Pub: the last senior stronghold

- EEWWW GET IT OFF!!!

- Guy's soccer cutting in for Clinton...I guess the only lines you guys do come from Colombia

- Toilets in the Library...higher than Rick James, bitch.

-Freshmen girls bulking up for hibernation. The ice cream's fat-free, but you're not.

- The freshmen pledging the VT...you're cheaper than the beer.

-The stench of Ugg Boots

by Zach Kubin '05 and Avery Schlicher '05

- Early bids: DU has dibs on the pre-med orchestra valedictorians.

- Next year's Sacerdote Speaker: Paris Hilton...IN NIGHTVISION, WHOOO!

- Ice queens, don't blame us that you have no friends

- www.clownpenis.fart

- T-Shirt/Shorts in winter: soooo last year

- Seniors with jobs already: rot in hell

- The Christian Right

- Nihilists

Letters to the Editor

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF _THE SPECTATOR_, ITS EDITORS, ITS STAFF, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE, ADMINISTRATORS, AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SPECTATOR HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION

1. submissions are due by 6:00p.m. on the Tuesday before publication. Submissions can be sent by email to spec@hamilton.edu or to bchase@hamilton.edu. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. the spectator will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. the spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. if a piece is determined to be libelous, and unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

Dear Editor,

I was just checking my email at a computer near some faculty offices. After listening to somebody's squeaky chair for a couple of minutes while surfing thefacebook.com, it sounded like he was making a phone call. Up to this point I wasn't sure if it was a student in a study carrel or what, but the tone and maturity of the voice assured me that it was an older person. I wasn't really listening, but being the slightly voyeuristic person I am, I did happened to tune in when I heard him mention the words "notorious" and "Susan Rosenberg" and "firearms" and "up in arms" in the same sentence. The man was phoning someone in an official capacity either or both to alert them to the current situation on campus and/or to find out if they had any information about her court case.

Hearing the name Susan Rosenberg, I was immediately interested not only because of the controversial status of her being hired to teach a half-semester seminar next spring, but because I myself am very excited to meet her and hopefully participate in the course. To me, her status as an ex-felon does not mark her to be unfit as a professor, especially after all of the works she has done since her incarceration and parole, and if anything, made her a more interesting, not dangerous, candidate to teach here. I remember hearing an argument between to people on this: one person said that Rosenburg's status as and ex-felon should not prevent her from working anywhere she wanted and the other person seemed to agree, with the qualification that she should be working at a fast-food place, not at an institution of higher learning like Hamilton.

Needless to say, I am enraged at the selfish hysteria and ignorance that is apparently still rampant on campus. This is a woman who was an activist who,yes, got a little out of hand, but I almost admire her passion even if it bordered on insanity or caused violence; the fact is that she was an exemplary inmate and was granted parole by the President of the United States, for God's sake. The woman is not a security threat. She is a shining example of humanity persevering through even the darkest internal forest of psychological demons to emerge still whole, not unscathed, but forced to bear her scars openly. In fact, this is a core part of the course proposed by Rosenberg, which will deal with writing as a means for dealing with extreme and painful experiences.

Thousands of people less fortunate than us have gone through similar trials while incarcerated, or have not even been allowed the chance to change, but to some people dwelling in the protected bubble of Hamilton's elitist academia, their struggles seem more like signs of individual weakness or derangement. In fact these peoples' strife is often the result of a power-corrupted social system perpetuated in part by actions of elite persons to label, shut-out and denounce so-called "criminals." This is blatant discrimination based on fear, and I think a case could certainly be made that those people here at Hamilton who oppose the hiring are violating laws that have been created to protect employees from discrimination on the basis of race, ability, sex, gender, sexual orientation, and in some cases, past criminal records. Were Rosenberg being hired to a job that gave her access to chemicals, firearms, etc, that might warrant more outcry; but to say that giving her access to young adult minds (or rather, giving, us access to hers) is dangerous, that is just ridiculous.

I look forward to meeting Susan Rosenberg and hearing what she has to say. If necessary, I would gladly serve as her personal bodyguard against discriminatory and fearful policies and people.

-Aletha Asay, Senior Fellow 2005

To the Editor of The Spectator:

I submit that there are (at least) four issues that one should keep separate in thinking about the decision to invite Susan Rosenberg to the College. The issues are: personal character, academic substance, academic credentials, and freedom of speech.

Wisely or not, our society still accords a measure of prestige to a person who holds an appointment to the faculty of a college. Deservedly or not, the values represented by the words and the actions of a professor can have a material effect on the values of the community in which the professor lives and works. Hamilton College states that "A Hamilton education will prepare (a student) to make choices and to accept the responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic world of intellect and diversity...."(College Catalogue, 2004 - 05, p.6, emphasis added). Even if Susan Rosenberg possessed the intellect or had achieved the scholarly or artistic pre-eminence of persons such as Albert Einstein, Milton Friedman, Lionel Trilling, or Leonard Bernstein, I would argue that her character, as manifestly demonstrated by the choices that she made, as an adult, over a sustained period of years, would preclude her appointment to the Faculty of Hamilton College.

At Hamilton, as at most colleges with at least a modicum of prestige, the Faculty controls the curriculum. A curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences should be limited to courses that offer disciplined and rigorous investigations of substantive and substantial branches of literature, science, and the arts that have evolved over many years from the work of persons of significant intellect and talent and that have survived informed criticism. I am disappointed that the Committee on Academic Policy, which is a standing committee elected by and from the Faculty, has approved for academic credit a course that, in my view, is far short of this standard.

With defensible exceptions for persons of notable accomplishment, the minimal credential for an appointment to the faculty of a college with the reputation that Hamilton enjoys is a Ph.D. degree earned granted by a significant research university in a field that is accepted by scholars as academically mature. I do not see that the credentials offered by Susan Rosenberg meet this threshold.

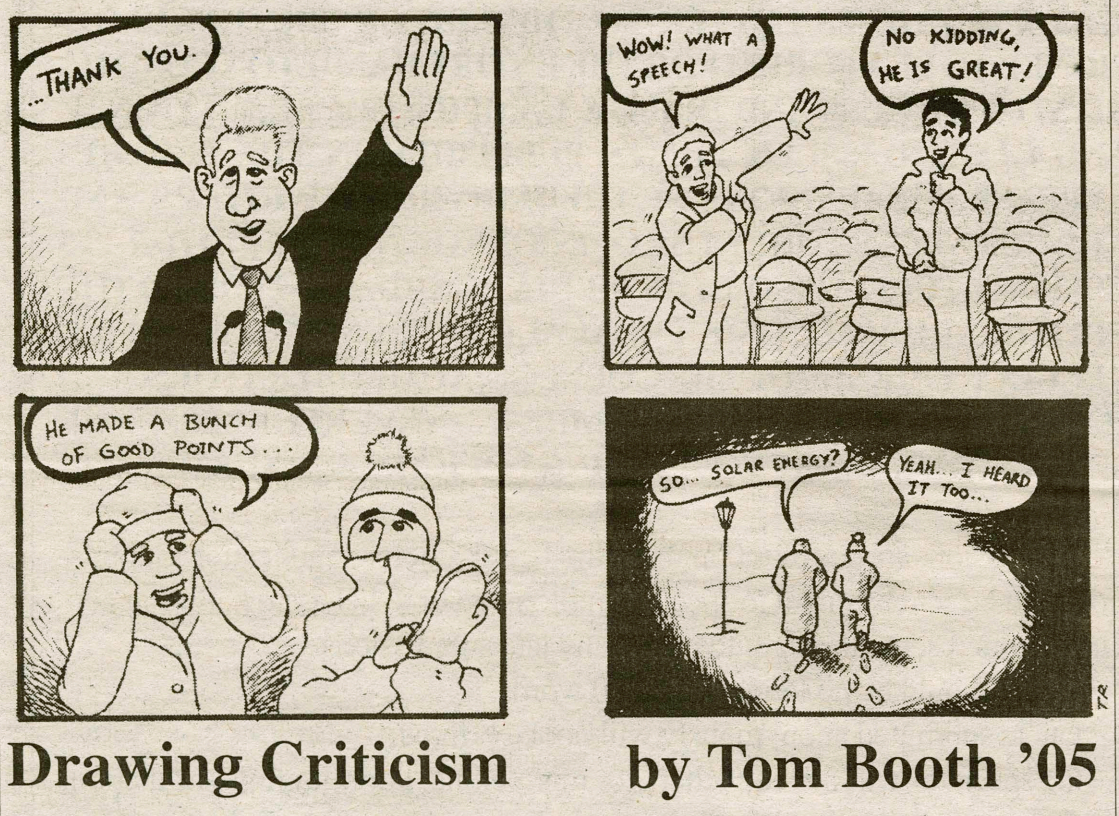
Finally, there is the issue of free speech, which is often inappropriately conflated with academic freedom. Freedom to speak at the College, and freedom to offer a course for academic credit while enjoying the status accorded a member of the Faculty, are separable issues. I would not object if some of my colleagues invited Susan Rosenberg to speak gratis. I think that we can make better use of scarce resources than to pay someone like Susan Rosenberg to visit us.

James Bradfield
Professor of Economics

Dear Editor:

I want to express my concern about the possibility of Susan Rosenberg becoming a member of the Hamilton community. I want to preface my objection by expressing how much respect I have for the Kirkland Project and all of the wonderful work that it does; however, I believe that Susan Rosenberg is a violent terrorist that belongs in jail, not in our academic community. Although I was not yet born on October 20, 1981, my life has been greatly impacted by the Brinks Robbery that ultimately left two police officers from my hometown of Nyack, NY, and a security guard, dead on Route 59, about 1 mile from my home. Every day of my life until I came to Hamilton I drove by the memorial to the slain officers placed at the entrance to the New York State Thruway in Nyack. Everyday of my life, I was reminded of the tragedy that occurred because of a number of people, some convicted, and others not convicted. My best friend's father, a man who has become almost like my own father, was one of the arresting officers that day. I have looked into his eyes on numerous occasions to see him fight tears away when recounting the story of that day. Had there been evidence that Susan Rosenberg was not involved in the Brinks robbery, none of this would be relevant; however, this is not the case. Although I cannot say without a doubt that she was involved, significant evidence suggests that she was. According to a February 15, 2001, CNN.com article, "Rosenberg was not convicted for her alleged part in the robbery, although she was indicted for helping plan it and driving a getaway car. When she was arrested in 1984 and sentenced to 58 years in federal prison for possessing nearly 800 pounds of dynamite and a cache of weapons, the robbery charges were dropped." Other sources I have found state what this article implies: that the charges were dropped because it seemed excessive to add prison-time onto the 58 years she had already been given; therefore, it seems inaccurate to justify to the College community Ms. Rosenberg's presence at Hamilton by stating that she was never convicted for her part in the robbery. I feel confident that had she been brought to trial for her part in the robbery that she would have been convicted. Susan Rosenberg's presence at Hamilton will be deeply insulting to me, as it will be to local law enforcement officers, residents of my hometown and everyone affected by the Brinks robbery. I urge the College to not bring her to Hamilton. I understand that a vigorous academic atmosphere requires a great breadth of viewpoints; however, I do not feel the viewpoint of a criminal is one that Hamilton should be welcoming.

Respectfully,
Ian Mandel 2006



Drawing Criticism by Tom Booth '05

Explosive controversy over new professor

by Blake Erb '05
I&I WRITER

Recently, an issue has arisen on campus that concerns the interests of faculty, staff and students. Controversy has surrounded the announcement of a half-credit course that is to be taught by Susan Rosenberg, entitled Resistance Memoirs: Writing, Identity, and Change. Rosenberg is the Kirkland Project artist/activist-in-residence for 2005. The lack of background checks for faculty members, the misleading information released about Rosenberg and the very fact that Rosenberg is being allowed to teach are all items of debate.

The green flyer put up around campus, notifying the students of the Rosenberg course was extremely misleading. The flyer states, "She [Susan Rosenberg] was incarcerated for a year as a result of her political activities." Political activities? Rosenberg was arrested and jailed for possessing 640 pounds of explosives, automatic weapons and blasting caps as well as using false identification. These items were obviously going to be distributed to radical political groups and cells for the use against political and/or symbolic targets. You know what that is called? Terrorism. Rosenberg wasnít making a big chemistry kit or setting up a fireworks show, kids. An article on crimelibrary.com (a Court TV website) wrote that when Rosenberg was in the back of the police unit after being arrested, she said, "I guess this is your lucky day!" It was a lucky day, because those police officers just saved innocent lives. Rosenberg was an extreme activist that intended to take her views into a new world. She was looking to use destructive and lethal force to push her political agenda. Luckily, she was caught before she was able to distribute her arsenal that would be used to kill innocent people.

Nancy Rabinowitz and the Kirkland Project should be ashamed of themselves for the blatant misinformation they provided the Hamilton community. It is an insult to the intelligence of the Hamilton community. Give us the facts and let us make decisions for ourselves.

The murky background of Susan Rosenberg brings up the question, why is teaching here at Hamilton in the first place? I understand and appreciate the importance of being exposed to diverse ideas and viewpoints at Hamilton College. I think the school accomplishes this goal quite well and I know that I have changed and grown as a person because of this exposure. This does not mean that I need or want to be taught by a terrorist. Someone who thinks, or has thought, that destruction and murder is an effective way to influence political or social issues does not belong at the head of a classroom. Now, I respect what Rosenberg did during her time in jail and would agree that she has reformed herself to some degree. But people have to be held accountable for what they did in the past. Rosenberg's attempt to go beyond activism into terrorism is something that she must deal with her entire life. What if she hadnít been caught? What if she successfully passed on the explosives and weapons? Would we want someone teaching at Hamilton who was directly involved in an explicit act of terrorism? The answer should be no. But academics on campus like Professor Rabinowitz seem oblivious to the outside and very real, real world.

One must not ignore the underlying issue of faculty background checks. It has been brought up that incoming faculty members should be required to go through a background check. Considering the close proximity professors have to students and the influence professors can have on students, background checks seem to be a good idea. But, NO! God forbid the faculty agrees to do something rational and logical. Growing up near Colgate University, we always said, "There's the right way, the wrong way and the Colgate way." Well, the same statement can be made for Hamilton College and its faculty. Come on, Hamilton! These aren't going to be the background checks that the FBI or CIA uses on their new recruits. I'm sure many professors at Hamilton have some minor blips on their record; but that wouldn't prevent them from teaching. A small marijuana possession charge, an arrest due to non-violent political activism or public indecency wouldn't be a big deal. But acquiring lethal firearms and explosions for use in potential terrorist activities is a different ballgame. Also, it was reported in the Spectator last week that certain members of the Hamilton staff must go through background checks. The staff positions that are checked are probably those that deal with sensitive materials and/or have close contact with students. Doesn't that criterion apply to all faculty members? If certain staff members must endure background checks but faculty members do not, there is a huge double standard on campus. The faculty's refusal to submit to background checks shows a very elitist and "I'm better than you" attitude. I don't want to pop your enormous egos, Hamilton faculty, but you do not deserve special considerations or exemptions because of your status.

Explosives, terrorism, misinformation, background checks, double standards. This sounds like a Dateline feature. Isn't Hamilton College wonderful?

The Little Picture

by Andrew Whalen '08
I&I WRITER

So, who enjoyed Lord of the Rings? Ok, let's see...hands higher now...one, two, three...yeap, pretty much everyone. So what is it that appealed to people about these films? Was it the direction of Peter Jackson? The amazing special effects? The rich mythology? Orlando Bloom? Well, it was probably all of these. However, there is something deeper running right below the surface that contributed to the trilogy's fantastic success. Put simply, it is presence of an ideological crusade. The idea of pure good versus ultimate evil. As we live out our routine, slightly boring lives, we constantly search for a purpose. I know I want an ultimate evil to fight.

Everyone's outlet is different. For some, their conflict is the eternal struggle between sports teams, for others it is the challenge of climbing a mountain or conquering a trail, or the escapism of novels and movies, and for many, it is politics. We look to the dueling candidates as being the ultimate good versus the invading forces of evil. I am particularly guilty of this, worrying incessantly that the fate of the universe is sealed if George W. Bush is reelected. Well, guess what? It has happened, and liberals everywhere are rending their clothing, weeping openly, and in general, being a whiney, mopey bunch. However, we are forgetting one key fact. The world has yet to explode. Flying monkeys have yet to pluck out my eyes and my soul remains safe from evil incarnate. George W. Bush is not Darth Vader, he will never be as dangerous as the eye of Sauron. This country will live another four years. While our country could be harmed, it is hurt even more by the actions of the people as a whole, rather than some hollow figurehead. Youth voting this election was only 17%; however I am not here to berate our generation for its apathy. Instead of worrying constantly about the big picture, let us, as individual citizens, attend to the details. So, you may be furious your candidate won, or you may be basking in the knowledge that your favorite hypocrite is back in the driver's seat (ok, so I'm a bit biased), but it's over now, step away from the polls. Stop checking CNN's website to read the latest goofy controversy. Instead, step out into the college community. Remember that even Hamilton College is a microcosm of the outside world. We have a society and government of our own to look out for. A perfect example is the recent meeting of the Community Conference Committee that I attended. Despite the allure of free pizza and the chance to make definite change at Hamilton College, fewer than a dozen people attended. Because of that fact, there was no student representation to decide the fate of the ELS building. Real decisions that affect us all are being made right under our noses! Sure, it's not the war in Iraq, but it is tangible and immediately impacts everyone.

So, in between burning Bush in effigy and proclamations of "hippies lose!", try to squeeze in something that matters to you. Stop looking for purpose in others' crusades. Instead, write a novel, climb a mountain, volunteer for community service and do not forget to go to the next Community Conference Committee meeting on November 10.

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Features

Fall play, Aunt Dan and Lemon, to open this week

by Kristy Hague '05
FEATURES WRITER

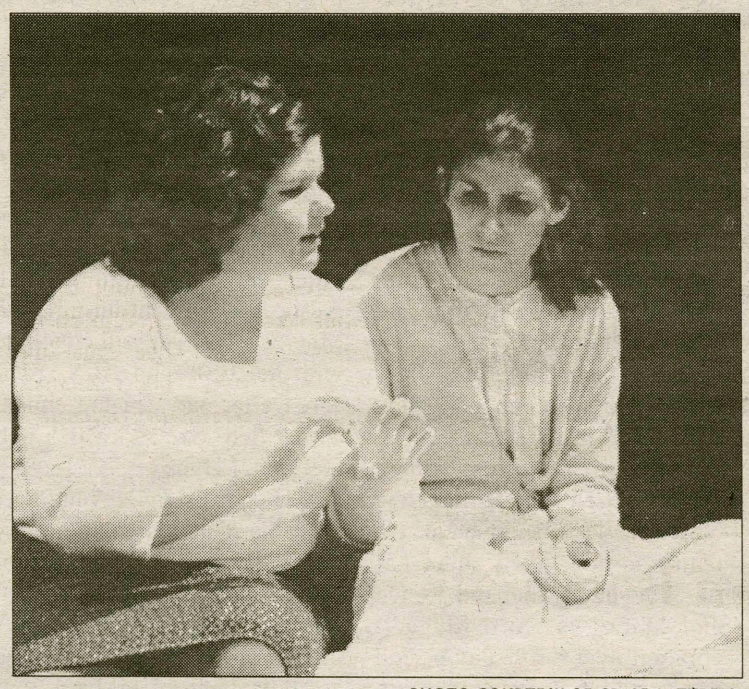


PHOTO COURTESY OF CRAIG LATTRELL

Sarah Schol '06 and Sasha Kaye '05 have leading roles in Aunt Dan and Lemon, which debuts on Friday.

This weekend, the Hamilton College production of Aunt Dan and Lemon, a play about how societies fall off track and how people misplace their compassion, will premiere in Minor Theatre.

Written by Wallace Shawn (most famous for his role as Vizzini in *The Princess Bride*) in 1986, the plot follows Lemon's recollections of a summer during which a close friend of the family, Aunt Dan, visited the family every night. Aunt Dan spoke about her life and opinions of politics. Most notably, Aunt Dan possessed an intense admiration of Henry Kissinger and his policies. As a result of Aunt Dan's influence the frail young woman, Lemon, begins to lose her compassion for other people. While the play focuses overtly upon political issues, it also examines the way in which people interact and treat each other. The play makes connections between political behavior and interpersonal manipulation through sex and violence. As a result of its brazen sexual content, language and violence, the Department of Theatre and Dance recommends that children under the age of 16 do not see this play.

Craig Latrell, Associate Professor of Theatre and Dance and director of the play, noted that the play was quite timely in today's political atmosphere. He pointed to the obvious connections between the social and political tensions during the Vietnam era and the concerns about Iraq today. Aunt Dan and Lemon plays with the debate about whether people have the right to criticize the government or should be quiet and not question those who protect our way of life. At one point in the production, Aunt Dan states that "the whole point of government is to use force."

In 1987, Latrell directed a production of Aunt Dan and Lemon for the Empty Space Theatre in Seattle. While directing this production, Latrell had the opportunity to meet with Shawn and learn more about the play. "This play has been with me for awhile now and it felt like an appropriate time to do it again," said Latrell. He pointed out that the play was a natural choice with the recent controversies over the war in Iraq and Abu Ghraib.

Also, Latrell noted that he made significant changes in this production from his original direction of it. While the physical features of the play, like different staging and different actors, are obvious, Latrell said that he sees the play differently now: "It's always interesting to go back to a script and see what it gives off in a different context."

"I enjoy how unnervingly relevant this play is to today's society," said cast member Jordan Wishner '05 "I hope the audience leaves with a sense that history can repeat itself."

The production process of Aunt Dan and Lemon began at the very beginning of the school year with open auditions. Two actresses, Sarah Schol '06 and Christan Copeland '06, were cast in the lead role of Aunt Dan. The actresses will alternate nights they perform. Lemon will be played by Sasha Kaye '05 while other parts will be played by Sarah Bert '06, Pete Harmenlin '05, Amy Schloerb '06, Jordan Wishner '05, and Tom Klaber '07.

The actors did research on the Vietnam era and major figures like Robert MacNamara and Kissinger. In addition to research, the actors rehearsed about three hours a night for five nights a week with rehearsal time steadily increasing as opening night approached.

Latrell noted that he had a wonderful cast to act in this technically difficult play involving a moving set and a fluid structure. "The actors have long complicated monologues that deal not just with words and stories but with difficult ideas. The process of tracing and unpacking ideas has been an adventure," said Latrell.

Both Latrell and the actors expect that the play will challenge the audience. "It's rare that an audience is confronted with a lead character possessing a questionable morality and I think that will make them uncomfortable and start to question some things," said Wishner. Latrell pointed out that the play is so complicated because all its characters are morally ambiguous and Shawn does not portray a typical hero in this story.

Aunt Dan and Lemon has a two week run in Minor Theatre. This weekend there will be shows on Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00pm and a Saturday matinee at 2:00pm. Next week the show will run Wednesday to Saturday night at 8:00pm. Call Minor Theatre for reservations at 859-4057. Tickets are $3 for students and seniors, $5 for adults.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CRAIG LATTRELL

The cast of Aunt Dan and Lemon includes Sarah Schol '06, Amy Schloerb '06, and Jordan Wishner '05; the storyline of the play relates to issues in today's society, like political dissent.

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

ISC passes resolution ending weeknight fraternity parties

Academics play role in decision
November 11, 1994

On Sunday, November 6, the Inter-Society Council (ISC) passed a resolution stating that there will no longer be fraternity or sorority social functions during the academic week.

The ISC, comprised of representatives from each of the eleven private societies on campus, decided that parties during the academic week (Sunday afternoon through Thursday afternoon) were unnecessary and "anti-intellectual" in nature. In addition, the President of the ISC, Tim Weymouth '95, commented that Hamilton is "a bit behind other colleges in regard to doing away with parties during the week."

"It's time the ISC took a realistic academic stand on campus. Eliminating academic week parties will have a major impact on campus. We think it will help the school become a stronger academic institution," stated Weymouth.

Trustees, the administration, and faculty did play a part in this decision. However, it was the ISC acting on its own accord that ultimately decided to eliminate the parties. This resolution responded to the ISC's concern that students were making weeknight social events, intended as places to socialize and relax after stressful work, into an entire "night out."

Rob Carrigg '95, the Vice President of the ISC, believes that eliminating parties during the week is "a good step in making students work hard during the week and party more on the weekend."

Clinton discusses, rejects curfew

November 12, 1976

Peach-fuzzed Hamilton students and Kirkland students walking Clinton's streets after dark apparently will not need to fear apprehension by the authorities for violating curfew.

At a village meeting held last Wednesday night for the purpose of soliciting opinion on Clinton's vandalism problem, only one person was vaguely supportive of a curfew that would prohibit unaccompanied children under a certain age from being on the town's streets after a specified hour.

The concept of a curfew had its origin at a previous village meeting during which Frank Vaughan, owner of Holland Farms (located at 40 College St.), related his losses due to vandalism and robbery.

Nevertheless, the majority in attendance seemed to speak under the impression that the Village Board was considering a curfew that would ban unaccompanied youngsters under 16 years of age from the village streets after 10 p.m. Most of those present were junior high or high school students.

The difficulty of pinning the blame was mentioned: a couple of people suggested that "outsiders" or college students might be involved in acts of vandalism.

William Seelow, Clinton police sergeant, opposed a curfew, and Mayor Lewis let it be known that he too does not favor a restriction on the nocturnal comings and goings of Clinton's young people.

Strike in third week; picketers' spirits high

November 9, 1973

Although the strike of Local 200 is now reaching the end of its third week, the strikers have few fears about the strains being placed on them. Most of them feel secure enough to maintain the strike until the Union's demands are met, since they are eligible for aid from the Union. Picketers receive this support as long as they remain on the picket lines. After seven weeks on strike, they can apply for Unemployment Insurance, and a few have already gone on welfare.

The major concern was the question of wages. Many feel that if the College would make a reasonable wage offer the Union would drop the closed shop issue. One of the picketers said, "Something like that would have to be voted on, but most of us would go for it."

The strikers were confident, and seemed to think that they would end up with a reasonable settlement. They feel that "a loaf of bread costs $.50, no matter who buys it. We just can't meet the rising cost of living on what we get."

Annual Culturefest scheduled for this weekend

by Theresa Fisher '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Work hard, play hard. College kids understand this saying well; arduous study hours deserve relaxed, enjoyable socializing. There are other components to college life, however, in which many Hamilton students engage and which are neither work nor play. One such integral part of the college years is the opportunity to experience and understand ways of living that differ from one's own. Hamilton offers plethoric options in gaining this understanding through various international and national programs.

This weekend, however, students will have the opportunities to expand their horizons here on the Hill during the annual Culture Fest. Culture Fest began in 1969 when Hamilton, which had an even more homogeneous student body than it does now, sought to recognize and celebrate diversity.

During its infancy, however, the Black Student Union (BSU) was the premier organization that promoted diversity, and thus ran the formerly week-long fest. Because there are now many groups on campus that devote at least part of their efforts to the promotion and celebration of diversity, Culture Fest has evolved into a collaborative effort. Such groups include the Asian Cultural Society (ACS), the Brothers, various ethnic dance groups, and of course the BSU, which remains integral to the success of the fest.

The activities, performances and events differ each year depending on which individuals and which groups are available and willing to contribute to the fest. Each year Hamilton attempts not only to celebrate the diversity and showcase the talent on campus, but also to incorporate the cultural richness that the surrounding area can provide, such as last year's featured Scottish dance group from nearby Colgate University.

In past years, the Culture Fest has attracted a large crowd and proved itself a more than worthwhile event to attend. Last year, approximately 350 gathered in the annex during the Saturday events.

This year Hamilton will benefit from a variety of Hamilton students and groups, as well as professional talent. Mark David, who is Assistant Dean of Students for Multicultural Affairs and greatly important in Culture Fest's success, explains the goal of the upcoming weekend: "The ultimate goal of Culture Fest is to showcase talent within the Hamilton community and to bring all of the different facets of the school together. We use opportunities like Culture Fest and the upcoming Martin Luther King Dinner to bring the community to celebrate and discuss diversity."

The Asian Cultural Society will kick off the Fest on Friday night with its Diwali Festival, the 'festival of lights,' which commemorates the Hindu New Year. While it began as an Indian tradition, many other nations, including Thailand, Kenya and Mauritius, currently celebrate it over a five day period during which it is customary to light oil lamps called diyas and place them around one's home.

During the festival, the ACS will demonstrate the ritual Pooja and present offerings to the Hindu Goddess of Wealth Lakhsmi, while attendees will be able to enjoy authentic Indian food. Towards the end of the festival, an Indian DJ from New Jersey will play both traditional and modern Indian music during a two-hour dance period.

Following Diwali, Def Jam poet J.Ivy will host an Open Mic show in Café Opus from 9-11. Performances will include a capella groups Special K and Tumbling After, as well as several acoustic acts. Mark David emphasizes that while the fest displays the talent of groups, it also focuses on the talented individuals here at Hamilton, which is especially evident during Open Mic. Friday night will conclude with the BSU and ACS sponsored after-party in the annex, aptly titled "Sweat," which will feature DJ Hype.

Though Friday's events may seem hard to match, Saturday offers a full day and night of culturally-inspired activities and shows. Saturday's highlights include an Art Students' League art show in the events barn from 5:30 to 7:00. The show will feature a variety of artwork, including paintings, sculptures and photography. Elizabeth Purchia, who is involved with the art show, explains its intended purpose as "hoping to open the minds of students at Hamilton and to encourage creative activity."

During the show, a variety of ethnic food will be served. Restaurants from the Utica-New Hartford area such as The Phonecian, Minar, East Dynasty Buffet, Karam's Bakery and Symeon's, as well as our very own Bon Appetit, will indulge cravings with foreign fare from nations including Lebanon, China and Greece.

Directly after the art show, Rhymelab and the Brothers' organization will sponsor a performance by Saul Williams, a well-known spoken word and slam poetry artist. After listening to the renowned Williams, students can stay and enjoy several stimulating Hamilton dance shows by Capoeira (Brazillian dance, gymnastics and martial arts), Finesse (a step performance), Tropical Sol (Latino dance) and Island Fevah (Caribbean dance).

In addition to the groups, several students will individually perform and demonstrate dancing from their respective countries. Appropriately, another after party, held by Omega Phi Beta and La Vanguardia in the events barn from 3:00 to 11:00, will conclude the culturally-stimulating weekend.

After all, before students submit themselves to the perils of the Sunday workload, they deserve one last chance to play hard.

Interpretation of "free thought" causes turmoil

by Danielle Sclafani '08
FEATURES WRITER

The title Atheists, Agnostics, and Freethinker definitely makes a statement. Some would even say that it intimidates. And, if your name is Robin Gane-McCalla '07, the former leader and once-influential member of the club, you might even argue that potential members might be turned off the words "atheist" and "agonistic" and that the name of this Hamilton club should be, gasp, changed.

Earlier this year, this very suggestion developed into a dramatic debate provoking Robin's split from AAF, and leading him to create his own club on campus called "Opening Minds" (formerly, "The Freethinkers").

Interestingly, like "Opening Minds," the Atheists, Agnostics, and Freethinkers is also the product of argument. Eric Bowman '04 founded the Atheists, Agnostics, and Freethinkers Club in the Fall of 2001 after he found himself arguing with everything his bible study group had to say. Eric, a transfer student who had previously attended New York University, modeled much of the AAF club after a group he was in by the same name at NYU. And so, in Dunham 324, Bowman's dorm room, the AAF Club began.

Gane-McCalla '07 first began attending AAF meetings when he was a junior at Clinton High School. When Eric graduated this past May, he passed the club along to Gane-McCalla. As Jess Mariglio '07, AAF Publicity Director, puts it, "Eric entrusted Robin with the duty of carrying the club into the future so new generations of Hamilton students could participate in the philosophical discussions the AAF hosts."

However, over the summer of 2004, Robin announced to the group, via the group's email listserv, that he was going to change the name of the club and place less of an emphasis on the "atheist and agnostic" part of the club and more of an emphasis on the "freethinkers" part. "At the end of 2004, Eric named me as President. I decided that the club's name should change, because in order to prosper we needed new people, and I'm not really an atheist," said Gane-McCalla.

Three of the original members of the group, Mariglio, Adam Hobson '06 and Dan Bleeker '06, explain, "many of the members of AAF emailed him back asking him not to change the group's name and purpose because they enjoyed the original group.

Other members opted to quit the club by asking to be removed from the listserv. In September, when the club began meeting again, Gane-McCallam advertised the club's first meeting under the name "Freethinkers Club." At that meeting members expressed their discontent with Gane-McCalla's changes by arguing with him in front of "bewildered freshmen" who had never heard of the original Atheists, Agnostics and Freethinkers Club. "We discussed the change at the first meeting, and it seemed that people agreed to the name change under some conditions: that I say what the club used to be known as AAF," said Gane-McCalla.

"I decided that the club's name should change, because in order to prosper we needed new people."
--Robin Gane-McCalla '07

After the first meeting of the 'Freethinker's Club,' [we] organized a meeting with Cameo Voltz in Student Activities and voiced [our] concerns. Robin had changed the club's mission statement and name without consulting the rest of the club or the advisor, and was therefore breaking the club's constitution."

Another major reason AAF members were unhappy with Gane-McCalla's "new" club was because the term "freethinker," according to Mariglio, Hobson, and Bleeker, has a very specific meaning and they claim Robin was using an incorrect meaning of the term "freethinker" when promoting his club. Apparently, Robin promoted his Freethinkers Club as a place where people could think freely and express their philosophical ideas however they liked.

"The problem AAF members had with Robin's use of the word 'freethinker' was that 'freethinker' does not mean to think freely and does not mean to have wild or unstable beliefs," explained one club member. "The word freethinker describes someone who forms opinions (usually in the context of religion) on the basis of reason independent of authority. He/She is not necessarily an atheist, agnostic or anti-religion. A freethinker does not necessarily have wild or unstable beliefs, they simply choose to question the validity of claims that come from an authority such as a church, a government, or parents. Questioning does not necessarily lead to rejection. A person might question their parents' values, but in the end conclude that they are indeed based on reason. They may also accept some parts and reject others, or reject all of them. The important thing is that their rejection or acceptance is based on reason and reason alone."

The original AAF group uses the word freethinker in its name to mean exactly this. However, original AAF members felt that Gane-McCalla's misuse of the word "freethinker" and removal of the words "atheist" and "agnostic" changed the club "entirely" and was a "dumbing down" of the club's name and purpose in order to attract new members who might have been turned off by the words atheist and agnostics and turned on by the sound of "freethought," even if that is not what "freethought" technically means.

After much heated debate, the clubs split into two: The Atheists Agnostics and Freethinkers Club, and Gane-McCalla's The Freethinker's Club (which quickly changed its name to "Opening Minds" in order to avoid confusion between the two clubs). The first meeting after the split proved successful for the Atheists, Agnostics and Freethinkers, but unfortunately was not as successful for Opening Minds, which, according to AAF, has not met again since and has never completed official organization registration. The Atheists Agnostics and Freethinkers club meets every other Monday night at 8pm in KJ 107, where they discuss topics about philosophical, political or social issues.

One AAF member explains their opinion on the arguments surrounding the splitting of the two clubs as "stupid:" "Atheists, Agnostics, and Freethinkers basically is the same thing as Opening Minds! It's not like all of the things we talk about are strictly related to atheism, agnosticism, and freethought. In my opinion, the whole argument was pretty ridiculous."

Study abroad fair coming Thursday

by Annie Neikirk '05
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

The past four years have shown consistent increases in the number of juniors choosing to spend a semester or a year abroad. This year's junior class has the highest percentage of students abroad to date. Around 200 students have signed up to go away for the upcoming spring semester - about 170 of those to foreign countries and the other 30 to Hamilton's New York and Washington, D.C. programs. This fall semester yielded about 120 students abroad, 60 of whom will continue their stay for a full year (up from about 40 from the previous year). These are unprecedented numbers, totaling around 300 students, or 55 percent of the junior class going away for at least one semester.

Why are so many students going abroad? There are several reasons. With the decision the college made four years ago to eliminate distribution requirements, it is more feasible to go abroad now than in previous years. In the past, double majors with distribution requirements simply didn't have the time to go away. The large jump in full year abroad students is also most likely due to this change. The other, more compelling reason is that word is spreading now more than ever that studying abroad is an unforgettable event that truly enriches the college experience. The vast majority of returning students have extremely positive things to say about their time abroad and are eager to share their experience. Hamilton also has a wonderful study abroad office that makes studying abroad accessible. They cater to the individual needs of any student and have preferred programs in more than 50 countries. The Hamilton abroad programs to China, France and Spain are all excellent programs that have national prestige. However if one of these programs does not fit what the student wants, they can find a better match. For this reason there is a nearly 100% acceptance rate for Hamilton students applying to go abroad.

Speaking from personal experience, I wholeheartedly agree that studying abroad is an integral part of the college experience. I studied in Spain in the fall of 2003 and could not have had a better semester. For those students considering studying abroad in a non-English speaking country, it is by far the best vehicle to improve language skills. Hamilton has a very strong language department and I improved my Spanish a lot in my first two years. However, this can't even compare to the improvements I made when speaking the language with native speakers all the time. The opportunity to travel is one that, in my opinion, should always be taken. Students learn about other countries and cultures and at the same time learn about themselves and enhance their own perspective.

There will be a study abroad fair this Tuesday, November 16 in the Events Barn from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. I strongly encourage any freshmen or sophomores who are thinking about going abroad to attend. There will be tables set up with students who have returned from various countries to answer questions about their programs. It is never too early to start thinking about where you might want to go and how you can get there. Come on down and get some information! If I had to pick one piece of advice to give to underclassmen, it would be to go abroad! Hope to see you there.

BY ANNIE BOWLER '08

Studying abroad allows students to gain new perspectives on the world around them and various cultures.

Student participants in Hunger Project travel to New York City

by Annie Bowler '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Wearing the dress of their respective countries, supporters of The Hunger Project gathered in New York City on Saturday night to celebrate their accomplishments and look ahead to their continued quest to end chronic hunger. The Celebration focused on children, and more specifically the girl children of the world. The weekend was kicked off by a black tie dinner and presentation and followed up by a series of workshops for supporters and interested new members.

The weekend marked another year in the non-profit's existence. Founded in 1977, The Hunger Project, or THP, is a group devoted to educating people about and treating the root causes of chronic hunger. In a presentation to reporters and new members on Saturday a program leader explained that THP was not a traditional hunger relief group. Instead, he said, the group worked not to alleviate the immediate symptoms and sufferings of hunger, but to look to the causes and treat them, hoping for a long term solution. He went on to explain that chronic hunger was not what the traditional American believed it to be. Instead of images of bloated children and refugees, he called upon images of functioning villages: little boys playing outside, and people working to earn money and food. The trouble, he remarked, is that you see the little children and think that they are five or six, when in reality they are ten or eleven. Chronic hunger robs the body of sustenance necessary to grow and leaves children especially victim to basic diseases that instead of being treated or fought, take their lives.

THP believes that the key cause of chronic hunger is the subjugation of woman in developing nations. Because woman are primarily responsible for the family and their health and nutrition, THP believes that by educating them many of the causes of chronic hunger can be treated as well. In an address to the U.S. Congressional Human Rights Caucus, Joan Holmes, the president of The Hunger Project, said that "hunger is a question of misdistribution and inequity-not lack of food." The group developed a series of workshops for woman who have the potential to be leaders in their villages. A law passed in India required one third of all council members in a village to be female. The Hunger Project believes that this is a grand step in their plan, and cracks the door for a nation full of women that don't know they have any rights at all.

BY ANNIE BOWLER '08

A Hunger Project leader presents long term solutions at the recent Hunger Project New York City function.

The hunger project uses all of its funds, mostly gathered from donations in the United States, to send these women to a workshop for a weekend. Once there, the women are taught, many for the first time, that they have the right to be treated equally to men. They are read their constitutions and many see a map of their country for the first time in their lives. Once they are awakened to their potential to make an impact on their communities, the workshops focus on how to get them started. Specifically, they are taught how to propose projects and follow through with their development. THP trains local women to lead these workshops so that the instructors are able to understand and identify potential problems that woman might run into when they return to their villages.

Since the Hunger Projects' creation in 1977, the number of hunger related deaths has dropped from 41,000 a day to 20,000 each day.

This weekends celebration was in honor of what THP calls "the girl child." A presentation on Saturday night included testimonies of hardship and growth by three woman who had been participants in the hunger project workshops, and one man whose life had been equally altered by his awareness and support of women's rights. All the women speaking had been strongly frowned upon since childhood, for no other reason than that they were born girls, and therefore viewed as a burden to their families. Each had her own story of overcoming obstacles after being educated by The Hunger Project. Currently each is a staff member of THP in her country.

Participants, including two Hamilton students, enjoyed a dinner and presentation followed by a concert by the New York City Metro Choir. More than 1200 guests from around the world came in celebration of the Hunger project's achievements; since The Hunger Project's creation in 1977, the number of hunger related deaths has dropped from 41,000 a day to 20,000 each day. Although this is a great milestone, it has been a gradual process and doesn't lessen the severity of the hunger problem in third world countries. According to THP, one in every seven people are affected by chronic hunger. Half of these victims live in Southeast Asia and another large percentage in sub-Saharan Africa.

The group urged supporters to help by donating financial resources. Donations like the ones received on Saturday are the only means to which the group has to continued it's work. More importantly though, the message in New York City this weekend was one of celebration for the lives of the women who are changing the world one village at a time. If you are interested in finding out more about The Hunger Project and what you can do to help, check out the website at www.thp.org or you can e-mail annie bowler (abowler) or britt freitag (bfreitag).

PHOTO BY TONY POCCIA

The remnants of Halloween fun can still be seen around the campus. While pumpkins still adorn the McEwen roof, Alexander Hamilton's new hat was removed in the beginning of November.

WWW.MSGPHOTOS.COM

Matt Nathanson will perform on Saturday.

Weekend Events

Friday, November 12

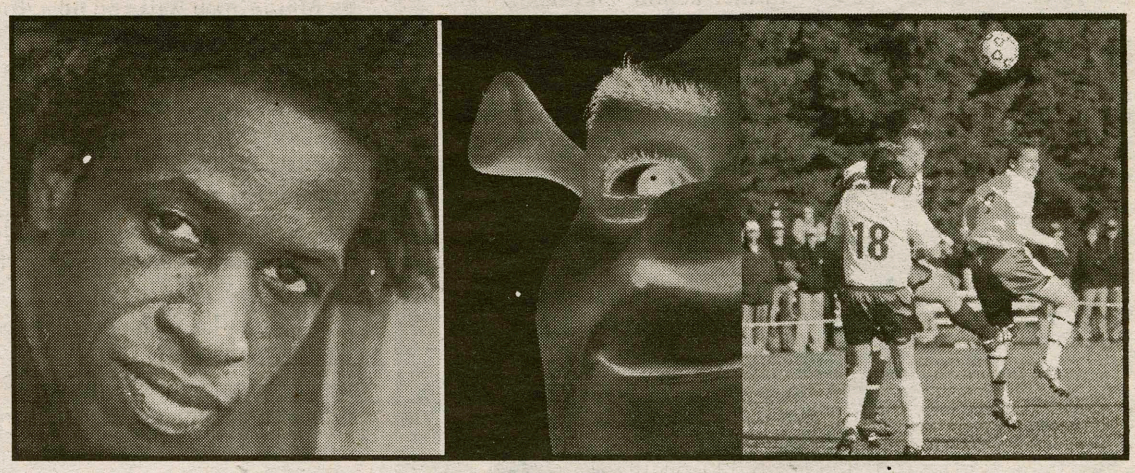
5:30-10:00 PM Diwali Celebration, *Annex*
7:00 PM Film: Shrek 2, *KJ Auditorium*
7:00-9:00 PM Junior Recital: Paul Bleiberg & Alex Ulreich, *Wellin Hall*
8:00-9:45 PM Fall Theatre Production "Aunt Dan and Lemon", *Minor Theater*
9:00-11:00 PM Open Mic, *Café Opus*
10:00 PM Film: Shrek 2, *KJ Auditorium*
10:00-2:00 AM Late Night, *Fillus Events Barn*
11:00-3:00 AM Culture Festival After Party, *Annex*

Saturday, November 13

1:00 PM Women's Soccer VS. Stevens Institute of Technology, *Love Field*
2:00-3:45 PM Fall Theatre Production "Aunt Dan and Lemon", Minor Theater
5:30-7:00 PM Art Show/ International Food Tasting, *Fillus Events Barn Lobby*
7:00 PM Women's Ice Hockey vs. NAHA (scrimmage), *Sage Rink*
7:00-9:00 PM Rhymelab Presents: Saul Wiliams, *Events Barn*
8:00-11:00 PM CAB Concerts: Ben Kweller and Matt Nathanson, *Annex*
8:00-9:30 PM Faculty Concert: Lauralyn Kolb and Tina Toglia, *Wellin Hall*
8:00-9:45 PM Fall Theatre Production "Aunt Dan and Lemon", *Minor Theater*
9:00-11:00 PM Culture Festival Performances, *Fillus Events Barn*
9:30 PM Film: Shrek 2, *KJ Auditorium*
11:00-3:00 AM Culture Festival After Party, *Annex*
11:59 PM Film: Shrek 2, *KJ Auditorium*

Sunday, November 14

7:00 PM Documentary Film: Style Wars, *KJ Auditorium*
10:00 PM Documentary Film: Style Wars, *KJ Auditorium*



AUTHORS.AALBC.COM, C.!ASPHOST.COM, NICK LUND '05

The weekend offers something for everyone: Saul Williams will perform, *Shrek 2* is playing, and the Women's Soccer team will begin their quest for the NCAA title.

Utica Mobile Zoo disappoints many

by Meghan Horman '07
Features Contributor

Anticipating a room full of exotic animals from the Utica Zoo Mobile, students who attended the Annex this past Saturday probably left in dismay. While the campus wide email inviting us to "learn about animals and animal preservation" hosted a picture of a koala bear, animals of this rarity were actually not part of the traveling zoo.

Lacking any type of truly exotic animals, the caravan of animals did include snakes, a small alligator, a porcupine and an owl. After talking to Emily, the porcupine's caretaker, for a bit and watching her wander the constraints of the table she was on, I made my way over to check out the second most appealing animal, Pig the owl. The tiny 6 year old owl named Pigwidgeon (after the Weasley family's owl from Harry Potter) provided a few minutes of entertainment before I reluctantly wandered over to see the snake and the rather small alligator.

The Utica Zoo Mobile's selection of animals was arguably less interesting than the animals that many of us have spotted in our very own Root/Kirkland Glen. Why spend the time and effort to walk around the Annex and pier into a few cages when one can potentially find more of a selection of wild animals in their natural habitat.

Many students have spotted deer, skunks, snakes, hawks and foxes while strolling through the Glen on various occasions. This may come as a shock to some, but should only encourage students to take advantage of the rural location of campus and to explore the possibilities of the woods. After all, spotting a wild hawk 50 feet away can be much more gratifying then seeing an owl tied to a leash perched upon someone's hand.

While it was not necessarily the most exhilarating visit to the "zoo", the Utica Zoo Mobile served as a reminder of the accessibility of wild animals on campus and our duty to protect them. Thus the information provided by the team of Utica zoologists about the preservation of animals hopefully served to remind people of the delicacy of nature and of our duties to respect and protect the surrounding environment.

Business & Economics

Finance 101... because I'll give you a dollar if I see you reading this

This week: an introduction to options

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDITOR

According to *The A to Z of Investing*, an option is "a privilege sold by one party to another that offers the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a security at an agreed-upon price during a certain period of time or on a specific date." If you can comprehend that cryptic statement, you need not read on. However, if that may as well have been written in heiroglyphics, the ensuing analogy will help you to understand the basic concept behind options.

Forget all about options for a minute and imagine two egomaniacal real estate agents; Mookie and Wally.

On the weekends, Mookie and Wally cruise their neighborhood in search of houses for sale. One day Mookie and Wally happen upon a four-bedroom colonial with an acre of land, a double garage and a white picket fence. Lo and behold, stuck in the house's perfectly green front lawn is a "for sale" sign with a price tag of $250,000. They both marvel at the house's features, but cannot agree upon its value.

Mookie, the enduring optimist, believes the house will increase in value over the next two years. He tells Wally that real estate prices are going up, and this type of house is becoming very popular. Mookie believes that within two years, the house could be sold for at least $400,000.

On the other hand, Wally believes the house's market price will hover around its current level. He doesn't foresee significant increases in real estate values and feels the home's style is slightly dated. He feels that the house's price will remain below $400,000 for the next two years.

Raging egos prevent the two men from agreeing to disagree on the house's future value. Wally believes the property's value will stay approximately the same or drop while Mookie forecasts a boost, so the two men make a bet.

Wally is so strong in his convictions that he turns and says unto Mookie, "Mookie, if this home's value is above $400,000 exactly two years from today, I will buy it and sell it to you. Because I so strongly believe this particular abode will still be worth less than $400,000 in two years, I will only make you pay $400,000 for it. However, because I am taking a significant risk and you are taking none, you must pay me $10,000 today if you want to take me up on this deal."

Well, Mookie has a lot of options. He can ignore Wally's offer and go buy the house himself for $250,000, assuming all of the risks associated with owning a home. Furthermore, he will have to tie up $250,000 of his own money for two years.

If he pays $10,000 to take Wally's bet and the home's price doesn't exceed $400,000 within two years, Mookie will be out $10,000. If the home's price falls between $400,000 and $410,000, Mookie will not make a profit in light of the premium payment he made to Wally two years ago.

Now, let's pretend the house's value is $500,000 two years after the deal is made. Wally, in accordance with his agreement, must now buy the home and sell it to Mookie for just $400,000.

Mookie pays $400,000 to Wally for the house, then immediately resells the house on the market for $500,000, locking in a profit of $90,000 ($500,000 revenue from reselling the house, minus $400,000 he pays Wally for the house, minus $10,000 he pays Wally to enter into the deal). So, Mookie's maximum risk is the $10,000 fee he pays to Wally at the outset of the deal. Mookie's profit is only limited by the price of the house two years after the agreement is made.

But what's to become of Wally? If Mookie doesn't enter the agreement, Wally receives nothing. If Mookie decides to take the bet, Wally initially receives $10,000, no matter what happens in two years.

If the home's price doesn't exceed $400,000 in two years, Wally does not have to take any further action, and has bagged himself $10,000. However, if the home's price rises above $400,000, Wally must buy the house at its market value and sell it to Mookie for just $400,000. Wally's maximum profit is the initial $10,000 fee, and his maximum loss is only limited by the house's rising value.

If the home's value balloons to $500,000, Wally must buy it and sell it to Mookie for the previously agreed upon $400,000, so Wally loses $90,000 on the deal ($10,000 paid initially by Mookie minus $500,000 he pays for the house plus $400,000 Mookie pays him for the house).

Let's make the switch from homes and real estate agents with funny names to securities and investors. In options lingo, this type of deal is known as a "**call**." Mookie's initial $10,000 payment to Wally is called the "**premium**." Every option has two parties involved; a "**buyer**" and a "**seller**." Wally receives the premium, so he is the "seller," and Mookie, who bought his way into the deal for $10,000, is the "buyer." The $400,000 line is the "**strike price**," and in two years, the deal will reach its "**expiration date**."

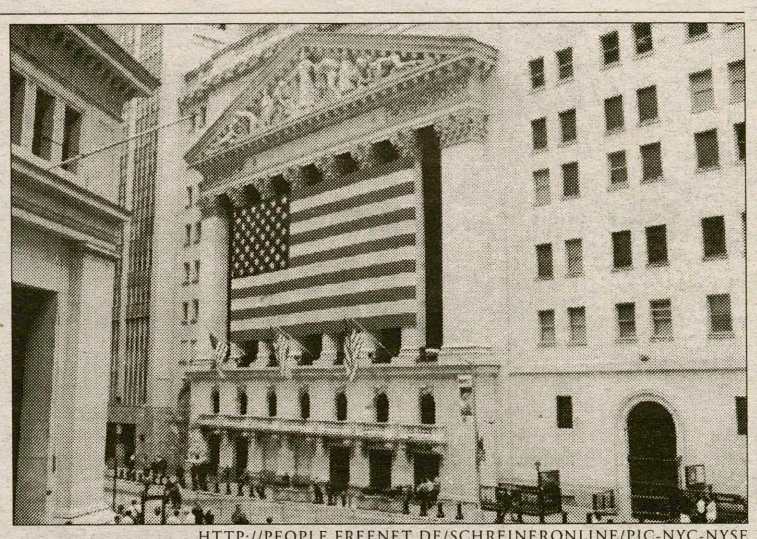
With options, 100 shares of the same stock replace the house. Expiration dates are almost always less than nine months, and the buyer and seller will never meet each other. The same brokers who sell you stocks and bonds facilitate options.

Suppose you are very optimistic as to the future of the IBM Corporation, and you want to buy a call for IBM stock. IBM's stock is currently $50 per share. You look around and find an option for 100 shares of IBM being sold at a premium of $3 per share, giving it a total cost of $300. The strike price is $55, and it expires in March of 2005. Because the option is for 100 shares, every $1 move in the stock's price represents $100 to you. Given the $300 premium, the stock must go to at least $58 per share for you to make a profit. You buy the option, and sit back to see what happens.

One of three things can happen when March rolls around. The first possibility is that IBM stays below $55 per share. You lose your $300 premium, and the deal is done. If IBM ends up between $55 and $58 per share, you will lose some of your premium, but make no profit. If IBM's price is above $58 by March, you will end up making a profit.

You may be asking yourself, "If someone is so confident in the future direction of a stock's or house's price, why not just buy the thing?" Consider expenses and risk.

An investor risks the entire purchase amount when buying a house or stock outright, and his or her out of pocket expenses are very high. On the other hand, an option buyer's maximum risk is the premium payment. Furthermore, an option buyer's only expense is the premium, which is much less than the actual house or shares of stock.



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Financial market report: 11/5-11/11

by Dave Kelland '05
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS COLUMNIST

The Standard and Poor's 500 spent most of the past week consolidating its huge 10-day, 7.3 percent rally, before making a fresh 31-week high on Thursday, November 11. The stock market's ability to maintain a highly overbought posture bodes well for its prospects over the next couple of months. Lower energy prices, positive economic reports and a stabilizing U.S. dollar catalyzed the move.

The internet sector, represented by the Merrill Lynch Internet Holder's Trust (AMEX: HHH), has reached a level not seen since November of 2000. Though impressive, 87 percent of this internet sector exchange traded fund is allocated to shares of Ebay, Yahoo, Amazon, and Time Warner. Therefore, gains in the HHH may simply be representative of the positive performance of these companies, rather than that of the internet sector as a whole.

The Federal Open Market Committee predictably increased the benchmark federal funds rate by 25 basis points to 2 percent yesterday and is expected to raise the rate another quarter of a point in December of this year. This rate augmentation was the fourth of 2004 and the fourth consecutive increase since June 25, 2004, when the federal funds rate sat at 1 percent. The move had virtually no impact on interest rate markets, as the rate increase had been priced into interest-rate based securities.

However, the United States dollar rose more than 1 percent against the Japanese yen, although it is doubtful that the market had not predicted the rate increase. The euro also sank versus the dollar this week, although it has not traded below $1.285 since making its all-time high of $1.30. The British Pound is currently trading at $1.84.

U.S. Treasury prices fell this week as strong jobs data last Friday fueled optimism about the economic recovery of the United States. The 30-year bond, 10-year note, and 5-year note yields rose to 4.95 percent, 4.24 percent, and 3.55 percent, respectively.

Gold prices have held their gains over the past week, even in light of some strength in the dollar. Gold's dollar price hit a 16-year high a week ago.

Oil prices continued to slide this week, giving back all of October's gains. Traders began buying again on Wednesday at around $47 per barrel, the high from mid August and a significant technical level. The price of light crude on the New York Mercantile Exchange spent 23 days steadily climbing from $47 to $55.50 per barrel. In only 10 days, light crude fell back to $47 per barrel. The next support level is $45 per barrel.

The Business and Economics section would like to apologize for an error in the market report last week. We claimed that financial markets perform better during Republican administrations than they do during Democratic administrations. This notion is incorrect

In fact, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco claims, "there is no support for returns being different under one political party versus the other. The old adage that the market prefers Republicans is not evidenced. On the contrary, the evidence indicates a slightly, but not statistically significant, higher return during Democratic administrations." In light of the abundance of poor arguments supporting our current political establishment, we do not want to add credence to another. We hope no one's financial future was put at risk due to our misprint.

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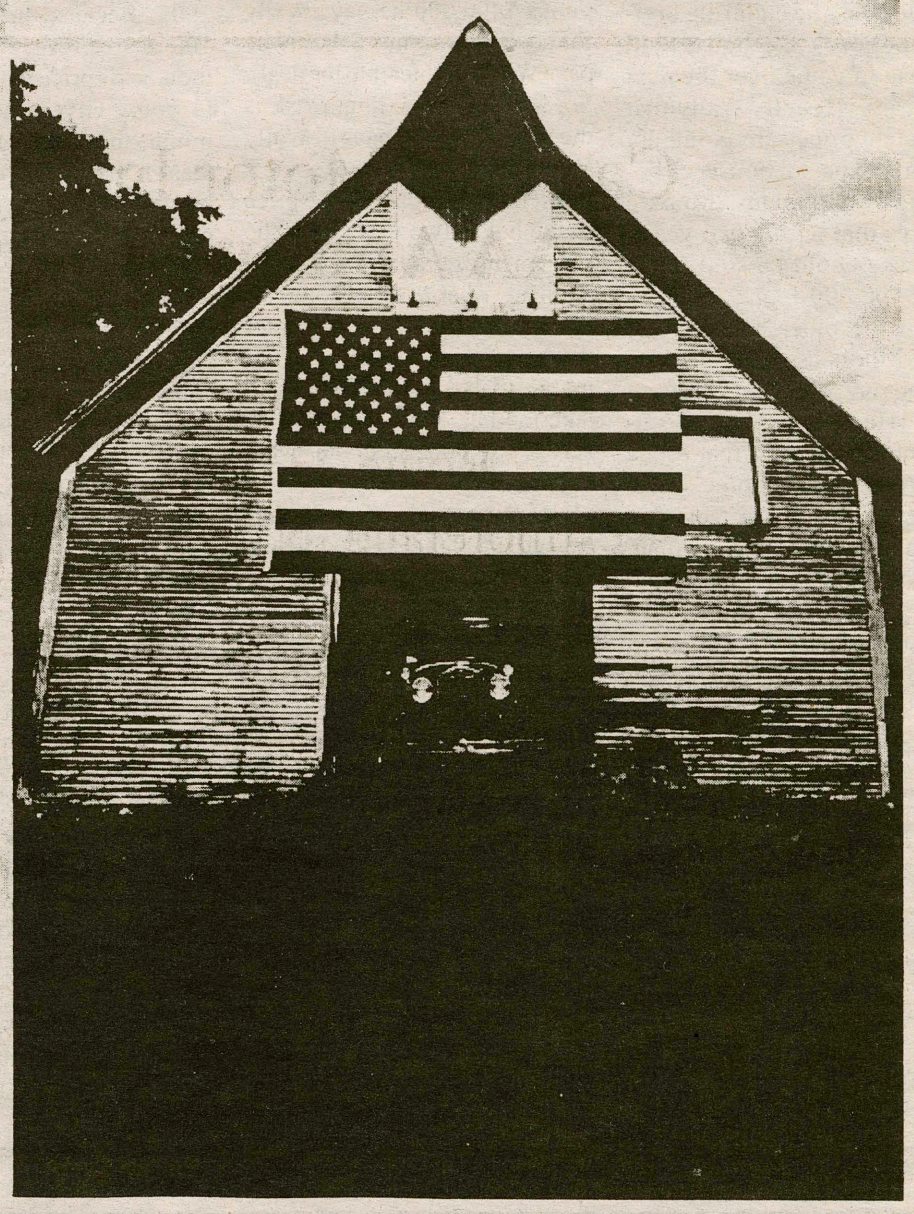

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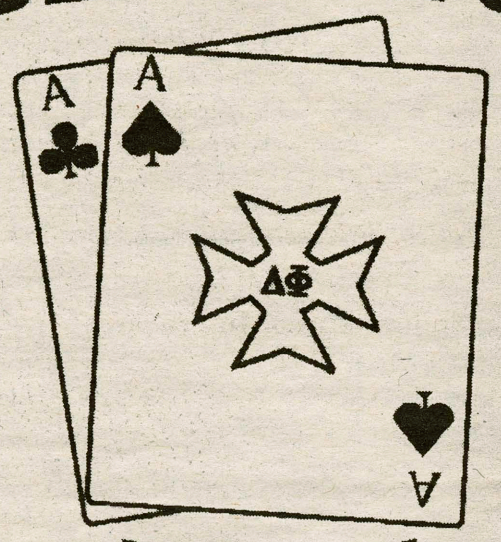

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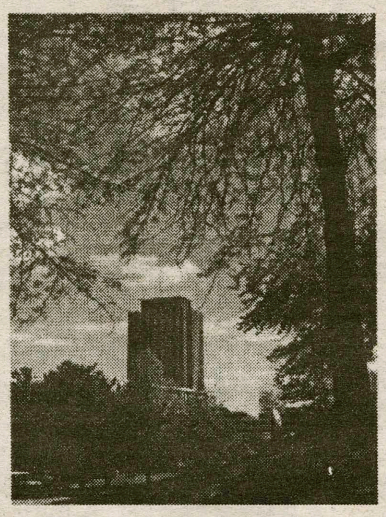

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Arts & Entertainment

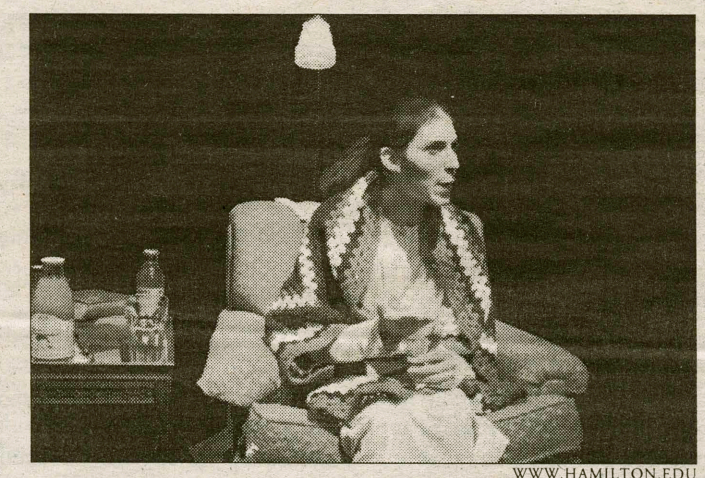
Aunt Dan and Lemon explores compassion in society

by Sarah Wissel '08
A&E WRITER

What does it mean to show compassion towards another person? Who truly ever cares what is happening to his or her neighbor? Wednesday evening, I got to sit and experience the life of Leonora, affectionately known as Lemon, a frail English woman. From the moment I arrived, she spoke directly to me from her armchair, a curious collection of colored liquids within reach. She wove in and out of stories about her parents and eventually stories about herself and her parents' American friend Danielle, who becomes Lemon's Aunt Dan.

This semester, the Hamilton Department of Theater and Dance is performing Wallace Shawn's *Aunt Dan and Lemon*, an entertaining exploration of compassion. Performances began Thursday and continue Friday and Saturday and then next Wednesday through Saturday.

The play opens as Lemon, played by Sasha Kaye '05, speaks from her living room, inviting the audience to share her memories and keep her company while she ponders the meaning of compassion and death, major themes in the work. Lemon's narration weaves between collections of her memories as she begins to focus on Aunt Dan, played by Christen Copland '06 and Sarah Schol '06, alternating by performance. An educated woman with a dominant character, strong opinions, and an active social history, Aunt Dan is arguably the greatest influence in Lemon's life.



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Sasha Kaye '05 stars as Lemon in *Aunt Dan and Lemon*. Check it out this weekend and next week in Minor Theater. Like Sasha, the production is pretty hot to say the least. Score.

Through Lemon's story, Aunt Dan's story begins to unfold, also in the form of memories. These scenes from her past come and go, largely due to the precision and skill of the crew members. Through these memories, a story is told; it is a story of friendship, love, lust, seduction, violence, suffering, government actions, sickness, economic despair, death, and loyalty.

Set in England and spanning the 1960s and 1970s, Shawn's 1985 play has clear connections to modern society. Director Craig Latrell, Associate Professor of Theater and Dance, chose the play in part for its "resonance with our society today." Latrell summarizes the work as "a play about compassion and how society loses compassion." In one of the especially heated scenes, Aunt Dan and Lemon's mother argue about the task of a diplomat and whether his chief loyalty is to his heart or his mind.

The mother, portrayed by Sarah Bert '06, attempts to convince Aunt Dan that compassion must always be shown to the victim, while Aunt Danpresents a radically different and thought-provoking position. Though the dialogue pertained directly to Henry Kissinger, the arguments could easily be applied to modern politicians. Meanwhile, Aunt Dan's memories expose the audience to crime and sexuality, leading to another heated scene.

The acting is phenomenal, but the audience will likely find itself particularly drawn to Aunt Dan, for both the distinctiveness of the character and the skill of the actresses, and to Lemon, who serves as a guide throughout the play, converting the work into a personal experience. Other performers include Peter Harmelin '05, Amy Schloerb '06 and Jordan Wishner '05.

The first ever showing of *Aunt Dan and Lemon* on a Hamilton stage was this past Thursday evening at 8 pm, but the play will also be performed in Minor Theater at 8 pm on Friday and Saturday as well as 2 pm on Saturday. Further opportunities to view the performance, definitely a good investment of 2 hours, exist next week at 8 pm Wednesday through Saturday, November 17 through 20.

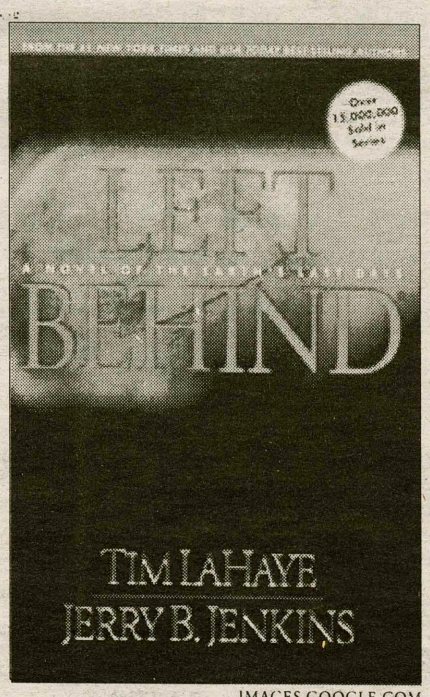
Left Behind: the Evangelical phenomenon and literature

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

The events of last Tuesday proved that evangelical Christians are a devastatingly powerful group in America today, but many of us probably don't know much about them. What are they like in their natural habitat? What do they do for fun? Do they watch TV, movies? Do they read? Can they read? (I'm not even joking; those red states have some bad school systems). Well, it turns out that they can and vast numbers of them do. So what is it that Evangelicals read? Well, as far as I can tell it's the apocalyptic *Left Behind* series. And a whole crapload of Evangelicals are reading these books; numbers six through twelve debuted at number one on the bestseller lists and they've spawned a wide variety of other series', including *Left Behind: The Kids*, the military version of the End Days and a political thriller series dealing with the same story.

So, there are a whole lot of Evangelicals out there and they seem to love apocalyptic literature. In fact, months after *Glorious Appearing* - the twelfth and final book in the series - debuted, it is still number nine on the list of books purchased on Amazon.com by people in Ohio... one above the new book by Sean Hannity. And we wonder why we lost.

In case you're unaware (and I'm betting that most people reading this are), the *Left Behind* series was conceived of by Rev. Tim Lahaye and written by Jerry B. Jenkins (the dude who writes that sports comic strip *Gil Thorpe*). If you look at the picture of them on the back of the book, you should be able to tell instantly who is who. Jenkins looks like he'd be a real friendly guy, a good uncle maybe. Lahaye? Well, he just looks creepy. He says he likes spending time with his many grandchildren, but I'm willing to bet they beg their parents not to make them go see scary Grandpa Tim. This isn't surprising considering he decided that a serial novelization of a literally interpreted Book of Revelations would be a good idea. Because you know what? A novelized, literal interpretation of the Book of Revelations is pretty freaking gruesome. I know this, ladies and gentlemen, because I have read *every single book* in this series.



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While this may seem like the title of a book describing how I felt after the election, it's actually about Jesus!

Here's the main plot of the series: one day, millions of people are "raptured" or instantly transported to heaven, leaving only their clothes, shoes and false teeth. Despite the instant solution to clothing shortages for the homeless, the world is thrown into chaos. Out of this chaos one man emerges, Nicolae Carpathia, who manages to take control of the U.N. and soon institutes a worldwide government, religion, etc. that he sets up in "New Babylon." How does he do this so easily? Well, he *is*

*See **Left Behind**, page 18*

Film Fraseology

by Andrew Whalen '08 and the Film Production Guild
A&E COLUMNISTS

There is one in nearly every group. The black sheep, the odd man out, the fifth wheel. The annoying kid. You know the one, the pebble in your shoe that puts a black spot on every evening's activities. Half-man, half- leech, this person quickly becomes the bane of your existence merely by existing. Well, in the editing world, the jump cut is that annoying guy. If editing were to be imagined as a happy community of friends, jump cut is the dude they give the swirley at the mixer.

Film Frase of the Week:

Jump Cut

Snobby Movie Elitist Use of the Frase of the Week of the Week: Just look at my rant on Godard's Breathless...need I say more?

A jump shot occurs when two very similar shots are cut together. If a man is shown speaking head-on, immediately followed by the man picking his nose, taken from the same angle, then a gap of time seems to be missing and a jump cut is born. Simply placing an intervening shot between the two similar shots can solve the problem. In this instance, a shot of his hand being raised from his side to his face would be an appropriate solution. The jump cut is the common error of many new directors, who ignore the 30-degree rule. In order to ensure that continuity is smooth and jump-cuts are not present, 30 degrees must differ if two similar shots are going to be placed together. In the case of a man standing still, the first shot could be at 45 degrees, and if the second shot is less than 15 or more than 75 degrees, then a jump cut will be avoided.

Of course, it is never quite that simple. Just like with the human leech, you need jump cuts around some of the time. The annoying guy may be needed to make you look good in comparison, or even to drive an unfavorable lass away. In the same sense, an able, intelligent director may use jump cut[illegible] obtain certain stylistic effects. Perhaps the most famous use of jump cuts to enhance formalism is in Godard's masterpiece of French New Wave, Breathless. The jump cuts enhance the illusory, quirky existence of a French thief wooing an American girl. The fragmentary continuity perfectly captures the rag-tag, spontaneous life of the criminal bybreaking his narrative into poignant bits unencumbered by the normal constraints of society or art. Hate him, or be consumed by disgust with him, the jump cut, like the annoying guy, is here to stay. Sometimes he even has something valuable to chip in, but not often.

Left Behind: the second most popular piece of Christian literature of all time

continued from ***Left Behind****, page 17*

the Antichrist. Duh! Actually, in the books they just call him Antichrist, not the Antichrist, but I'm going to call him the Antichrist. Take that, Lahaye! Against the Antichrist are the believers, particularly the Tribulation Force, which the main characters belong to. They are fighting the Antichrist (though only rarely with guns) while trying to convert as many people as possible before the Glorious Appearing, which is when Jesus will supposedly come back and judge all the remaining people, who will either go to Heaven or die violent deaths and suffer eternally. Apparently the Jesus in the Book of Revelations decided to ignore all that forgiveness crap he preached in the Gospels. Oh, and while this is going on there are a whole bunch of judgments, which brings us to how I came to read this series.

I was raised Catholic. I went to Catholic high school. I have had dinner with my parish priest many times. I am a Eucharistic Minister. I was the president of my church's Catholic Youth Council. Now, however, while I still call myself Catholic, I am non-practicing. I believe that a woman has the right to choose. I believe that gays should be allowed to marry. I think we should research the hell out of stem-cells. I believed this even when I went to Church every week. And yet, I've read every single book in the most popular series of Evangelical fiction.

So how did I come to be reading this series? Well, I was on Amazon.com and saw this very popular book called *Apollyon: The Destroyer Unleashed*. I decided to see what was up and found out that the book dealt with a judgment involving demon-locusts. Well, as anyone who has ever met me or read Badass Movie Reviews knows, demon-locusts are right up my alley. I mean, come on. Demons and locusts in one convenient package? What more do you want? But I couldn't just jump in on book five, so I soon found myself buying *Left Behind* and the other books in the series.

As far as the books are literarily concerned, no one is winning any awards. Seriously, they're written by the dude who does *Gil Thorpe*. And it's hard to build suspense when the foregone conclusion is that Jesus will come back, defeat the Antichrist and usher in his millennial kingdom, where everyone will live happily ever after for one thousand years. What happens after that, we don't know.

Where the authors do build suspense is in the lives of the main characters, how they deal with problems, how they try to convert people, and so on. There are also a lot of rescue missions. Oh, and tons of non-believers die terrible, terrible deaths. Because that's what happens: if you don't accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior, you will die and spend eternity in hell. Oh, those loving Christians.

Personally, I really enjoyed the earlier novels in the series. They were interesting, not so much because of the religious stuff, but because of all the plagues and judgments. I mean, darkness so pervasive that it causes people to bite out their tongues and beg people to kill them is pretty powerful stuff. Likewise with the demon-locusts. And the demonic horsemen. And all the while that these plagues are going on, believers can walk around completely free from harm. Not too shabby. On a side note, I have to point out that the most popular Christian media, these books and *The Passion*, both deal with terrible suffering in gruesome detail. Hmm.

Anyway, I liked the first bunch of books, up till about number nine. After that the guys really started phoning it in. I can't blame them; it must be boring as hell to write a twelve book series that everyone knows the end to. The twelfth book, while most violent, was also the most boring. Jesus massacres thousands of non-believers in a Schwarzenegger-esque manner while the believers watch in a mix of horror and joy. Then, after cleaning up all the blood and banishing the Antichrist to a pit of fire, it's time to let the millennial kingdom party start. Of course, the millennial kingdom is going to be real peaceful (read boring) because everyone agrees with everyone else.

What bothers me about this series is not that it is Christian. I didn't particularly like the parts where the characters get all preachy about God's love and whatnot, but they're easily skimmable. What *does* bother me is how the books deal with certain problems. For example, the millennial kingdom (and it would seem the entire world before the millennial kingdom) does not have a single gay person. Seriously. In the course of twelve novels homosexuality never once arises as an issue. It is just assumed that all godly people are straight and otherwise, it's hell time.

It's the same with other religions. Jews aren't too bad because they can be converted but everyone else is out of luck. Islam, the largest religion in the world? Straight to hell for them! Same with Buddhism, Hinduism and absolutely anything else that is not evangelical Christianity. If you do not believe that Jesus Christ is the son of the Judeo-Christian God Yahweh and you do not take Christ as your personal savior, you are damned to eternal punishment.

Jesus has been reduced to a bureaucrat and a killer. And that is ok because he kills people who disagree with him. These evangelical Christians have decided to focus entirely on one book of the Bible, ignoring Christ's most important teachings. Gone are his ideas of loving your enemies, turning the other cheek, forgiveness and redemption.

The *Left Behind* novels, whatever their ambitions may have been, spread a message of intolerance. But they won't go away. And neither will the Evangelicals. The only way to deal with this is to be informed and being informed means knowing about books like this. And we must not let books like this be so widespread with little to no opposition. If the Evangelicals can oppose *Harry Potter* for promoting witchcraft, then by damn, we secularists can challenge *Left Behind* for promoting intolerance. After all, which do *you* think is a bigger problem in the world today?

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Classic Badass: *Gladiator*

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

Gladiator is the story of the general who became a slave. The slave who became a gladiator. The gladiator who was incredibly badass. Yes, this is the winner of 2001 Academy Award for Badass, which means that not only is it chock full o' badass, but it's a good movie too! You don't see this every day, people. Russell Crowe even got the Oscar for Best Actor. Now, considering his role consisted largely of fighting tigers and killing tons of dudes, this is impressive. Sure, he did some "drama" and stuff too, but who watched that?

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Are you not badass?! Are you not badass?! (Keep in mind that he probably just killed three tigers and at least one armed man).

Russell Crowe stars as General Maximus Decimus Meridus Badassicus, a Roman general fighting the Germans under the Emperor Marcus Aurelius. The movie opens with him leading his troops into the decisive battle of the Germania campaign. And, as decisive battles tend to be, this one is incredibly bloody. Of course, the movie takes place in the second century A.D., so the fighters attack each other with axes, clubs and all sorts of other fun weapons.

Shortly after the battle, Marcus Aurelius dies and Maximus is framed as his murderer, even though Joaquin Phoenix, playing Commodus, a weird guy who wants his sister, is the killer. Maximus is marked for execution but is far too badass and escapes, only to find that his wife and child have been killed. Then he nearly dies before he becomes a gladiator. Since he is a superbadass Roman general, Maximus dominates all of the other gladiatorial candidates and eventually all of the other gladiators. And eventually, as the movie posters tell us, he defies an emperor. I, for one, am moved.

Sure, you can watch the whole movie if you want, but is that really necessary? The DVD has scene selection that lets you skip around so that you can only watch the fight scenes. Most excellent. And the fight scenes are what make this movie. Forget about all that acting and emotions crap; it's all about people getting gored on big spikes or getting their heads cut off. In my favorite fight scene the gladiators don't just have to fight each other, but also a bunch of tigers that are in the ring with them. Growl! For my money, there is little that is more badass than tigers. You just don't mess with a tiger. Unless you're Maximus Decimus Meridus Badassicus. Then you can do whatever the hell you want.

Seriously, that's one way to get some respect. If you can beat a tiger in hand-to-hand combat no one can really ever talk smack about you again. If anybody tries to be like "Hey Maximus! Your mom!" Maximus can just be like "Oh yeah, well remember that time when I beat the crap out of a tiger?" That is sure to shut up even the most dedicated heckler. Yes, that scene alone made the movie for me. Sure, the decapitations were great, and the guy with a huge yak's-head mask that goes around annihilating dudes when they're fighting in Africa is sweet, but the tigers did it for me. Watch the scene; I think you'll agree.

It's not every movie that can blend actual acting and plot in with total badassery, but *Gladiator* does it with style and flair. Now I must leave you so that I can go fight some tigers. In the words of Maximus: "Strength and honor and badass." This has been Badass Movie Reviews. Next week: *What a Girl Wants*.

The golden painting, money, and the Metropolitan

by Alex Taylor '07
A&E CONTRIBUTOR

"Forty Five Million!" shouts the Lotto poster in midtown. So too, alas, does the Metropolitan. Never one to shy away from publicizing the cost of art, the Metropolitan recently celebrated the successful acquisition of the last Duccio de Buoninsegna in private hands, the rarest of trophies, with a well placed article in the Wednesday *Times*. That a painting should cost close to fifty million dollars no longer surprises the way it once did, and in an era of the hundred million dollar Picasso any number of works from the Met's collection might fetch more at auction. But one is embarrassed watching as the Metropolitan's gravitas gives way to covetous euphoria. "We spent a long time looking at it," the *Times* reported Keith Christiansen, a curator of European painting at the Met as saying. "It's not only an incredibly beautiful picture; it's also unbelievably moving."

COURTEDY OF ALEX TAYLOR '07

Expensive too. At a diminutive eight by eleven inches, Duccio's Madonna and Child is perhaps the priciest real estate in all of Manhattan, a gilded Tom Thumb for the town where a one-bedroom walk up costs more than most can afford. Although spending forty-five million dollars on a painting is cause for sober reflection, I suspect that the museum will not suffer long from buyer's remorse but continue on the path of its grabby bender. If Metropolitan director Philippe de Montebello's reference to Duccio as the "first slide in an art history 101 course" is any indication, the Met intends to possess every last canonical work still in private hands, a Jansen textbook written large in stone. Never mind lowering the cost of admission so as to attract the very public of whose interest the museum often speaks, the Metropolitan grows ever larger, consuming objects at a rate that brings to mind the monster blobs of 1950's junk film.

"It's a picture created for patient viewing," the *Times* reported Mr. Christiansen as saying, "And as you look at it, the image grows in your imagination." Yes, but its not Duccio's revolutionary - and I use the word hesitantly - construction of pictorial space that so transfixes the viewer, but the Metropolitan's mesmeric transmutation of art into gold. Painting as immeasurable capital, the museum suggests, leaving behind the Renaissance and with it the world of reason for the seven lost cities, Ali Baba's treasure, and the Rockefeller clan.

The Samuel Kirkland Film Society Presents:

Shrek 2: (2004. PG, 92 Mins.)

Cast (voice): Mike Meyers, Cameron Diaz, Eddy Murphy, Antonio Banderas, John Cleese.
Synopsis: The anti-Disney DreamWorks Animation crew takes this opportunity to provide laugh-inducing jabs at everything from The Gap to the pretentiousness and plasticity of the Hollywood-evoking kingdom of Far Far Away. References to Indiana Jones, TV's Cops and even OJ Simpson's infamous white Bronco make for well-calculated ludicrousness. Shrek meets the parents, fights a fencing cat, makes fun of a donkey; hilarity ensues.

Playing: In the KJ Auditorium, Thursday—7:00 pm; Friday—7:00 pm, 10:00 pm; Saturday—9:30 pm, Midnight.

Rhymelab and Samuel Kirkland Films present:

Style Wars: (1982. Not Rated, 69 Mins.)

Cast: Crazy Legs, Cap, Frosty Freeze, Kase 2, documentarians Henry Chalfant and Tony Silver.
Synopsis: "Director Tony Silver and photographer Henry Chalfant led a camera crew into subways, parks and projects to shoot a documentary about graffiti. They ended up documenting something much bigger; the formative years of hip-hop culture" — SPIN Magazine. The Golden Era of hip-hop in all its glory. Enjoy.

Playing: In the KJ Auditorium, Thursday—10:00 pm; Sunday—7:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

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Science & Technology

Health on the Hill: doctors report too much vitamin E increases risk of death

by Jonathan Rees '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

We eat pretty well on the Hill. Bon Appetit has been known to have a few off days, but what the food lacks in quality they more than account for in quantity. One who is mindful of their health may consider supplementing their diet with herbal or vitamin supplements.

There may be, however, risk involved with taking said dietary aids, particularly vitamin E.

Vitamin supplement manufacturers possess marketing prowess while lacking supportive scientific evidence indicating that their product is actually healthy. According to a recent study led by Edgar Miller, an epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, vitamin E supplements have been shown to increase the risk of death. The study is published in the Annals of Internal Medicine.

"Companies make all sorts of nebulous claims about vitamin E having certain health benefits. But that's not based on science, that's just marketing," wrote Edgar Miller.

The study incorporated researchers from the United States, Britain and Spain. After careful data analysis of 130,00 participants in 19 different trials, the researchers determined that participants taking doses of 400 international units (IU), the most common dose in vitamin E supplements, were 10% more likely to die than they would have been if they had taken no supplement at all.

It is difficult, indeed, for consumers to believe that their supplements may be harming them given the spin with which corporations market vitamin and herbal extract supplements. A vitamin company, ironically entitled, "Life Extension," markets a 400 IU vitamin E supplement. The company indicates that vitamin E has "shown superior action in maintaining arterial health. This wonder nutrient is so effective because of its structure of double bonds in the isoprenoid side chain, making it a great scavenger of free radicals." Note that vitamin E is indicated here as a "wonder nutrient."

The company is not wrong. Vitamin E is an antioxidant and does neutralize free radicals thereby protecting cells and tissues so at least the company is not lying directly to consumers.

It is also thought to aid in healing wounds, augment the immune system, and aid circulation.

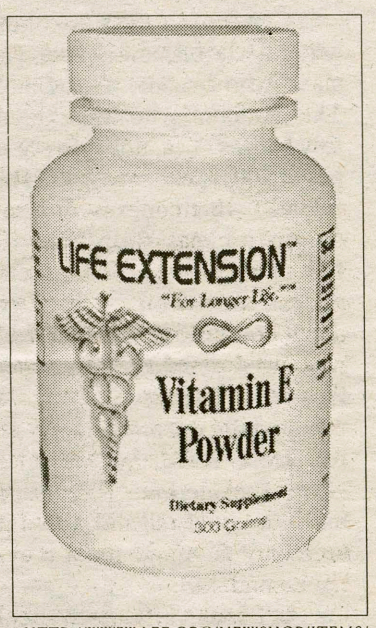
The doctors in the study, however, discovered that 400 IU is an unnecessarily large dose of vitamin E. This is because the nutrient is fat soluble, meaning it does not dissolve in water and only dissolves in fat. Thus, when taken in such high doses vitamin E accumulates in fat tissue.

David Waters, professor of medicine at the University of California San Francisco, and a cardiologist at San Francisco General Hospital said, "When you call something a "vitamin," people assume it is beneficial. No one dreams that it could be harmful. But there is no reason why, like any other chemical compound, it shouldn't be harmful when taken above a certain limit."

The facts: researchers found a dose of 150 IU or less had no adverse side effects, and might have health benefits, although, further evidence is needed to determine the merit of these benefits. Above 150 IU there is a risk of death, which becomes significant at 400 IU and higher.

The moral of the story is that one shouldn't believe the corporate hype when it comes to drugs and vitamin supplements.

Doctors and scientists at drug companies are smart, but the companies are in the market to make money more than to help the consumer be healthy. We have already witnessed the disgrace of the drug Vioxx, manufactured by the drug company giant, Merck. So, before you take any sort of supplement make sure you do a little homework.



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Vitamin suplement companies like LifeExtension claim vitamin E is a "wonder nutrient."

Pain medication won't ease the anguish:

drug companies Pfizer and Merck to face congressional hearing

by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

For the majority of students at Hamilton College, arthritis drugs have not yet become a concern. Yet, for a large percentage of the world's population, these painkillers are an everyday reality. Except that now, clinical trials are unsettling the medical community, showing that these painkillers not only kill pain, they kill people.

On September 30, Merck and Company took their top-selling arthritis drug, Vioxx, off the market. A cyclooxygenase-2 (COX2) inhibitor, Vioxx was linked to heart disease when clinical trials found it almost doubled heart attack and stroke risk among patients after long-term use.

COX2 drugs were designed to block cyclooxygenase enxymes which have been linked to the pain and swelling attributed to arthritis. The drugs are an advanced, selective form of the original, nonselective cyclooxygenase (COX1) inhibitor, which had inhibited the protective COX enzymes in the stomach and caused damage to the lining.

Bextra, a similar painkiller in the same class as Vioxx, has also come under heavy scrutiny. This week, researchers published a preliminary study showing that Bextra taken by patients with heart disease more than doubles their risk of heart attack and stroke.

Drug manufacturing company Pfizer claimed that the researchers' study on their product, Bextra, was "based on information that has not been published in a medical journal or subject to independent scientific review."

Yet still, Pfizer's stock has fallen dramatically, just as Merck and Co.'s stock dropped in September when they choose to pull Vioxx of the market.

The medical community is requesting further research into painkillers classified as COX2 inhibitors, especially since older patients with heart disease have been found to be at considerable risk. "Arthritis drugs are not saving people's lives. Ironically, they're inducing heart attacks and may be losing people's lives," argued Dr. Eric J. Topol. A cardiologist practicing in Cleveland Clinic, Topol was one of the first in the field to warn the community of the heart problems he observed associated with the new painkillers.

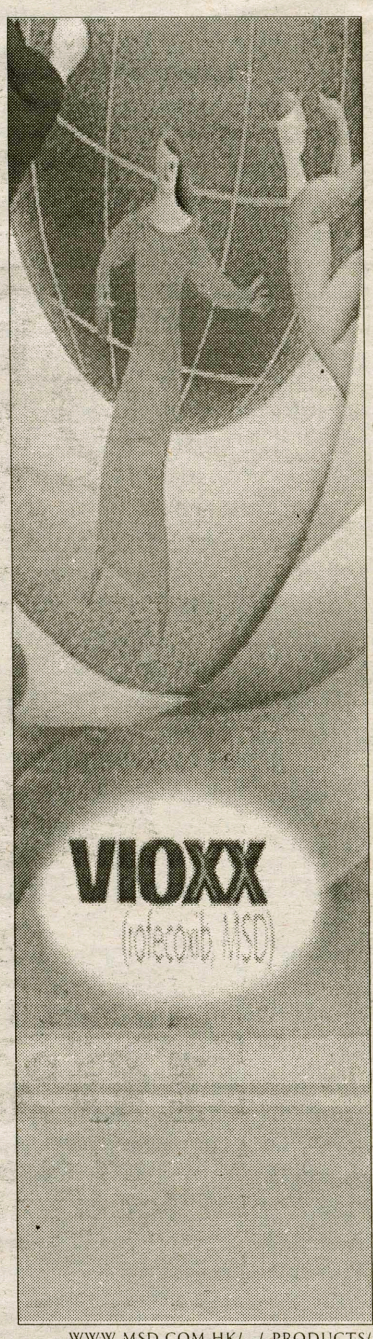
Since the Food and Drug Administration controls the drug market targeted directly at consumers, Topol argues, "The reality is that they could shut that down at any time." Despite some pressure on the FDA, their spokeswoman, Kathleen Quinn, was unable to comment on the agency's intentions for action. Quinn did say that the FDA will not negotiate with individual companies but rather investigate the drugs as an entire class of painkillers. She also acknowledged that the FDA has no plans to accelerate a future meeting on COX2 intended to take place in February.

Arguing for the new class of painkillers, Dr. Elizabeth A. Tindall, incoming president of the American College of Rheumatology, argued, "I would hate for people to go off these medications on what may turn out to be unfounded rumors. Each drug has to be carefully scrutinized. I don't think they've quite done that with Bextra to the extent they did with Vioxx."

However, decision-makers and clinicians at Kaiser Permanente feel that there are safer alternatives to COX2. Kaiser's medical director of pharmacy operations went so far as to say that Bextra and Vioxx were comparable to painkillers like Motrin, citing their expense, slight benefit and large risk. Topol believes that naproxen ought to be the first anti-imflammatory prescribed to people with arthritis who might also be at risk for heart problems.

Merck & Co. Inc. was called on Wednesday to answer questions about its decision to withdraw Vioxx. Merck will be responsible for addressing the arthritis medication's safety on November 18, the first congressional hearing after elections. Senator Charles Grassley, chairman of the Senate Financé Committee in charge of the hearing will question Merck, as well as the FDA, about the potential mistakes made in the decision to remove Vioxx from the market. A Republican lawmaker from Iowa, Grassley noted his skepticism concerning Merck's knowledge of Vioxx's cardiac risks and when this knowledge was first obtained. Criticisms have been made of the decision, and many argue that both Merck and the FDA appear to have acted underhandly when public safety was at stake. Said Grassley, "The agency must address what looks like systemic problems when it comes to putting public health and safety first and public relations second."

The FDA has come under heavy criticism recently for under regulation of the drug market. Many say the agency should have been stricter with Merck in its oversight considering the fact that heart problems have been appearing in arthritic cardiovascular patients for years. However, as House Government Reform Committee Chairmen and Virginia Republican Tom Davis told press, "Determining whether FDA adequately monitored the drug will be impossible without first grasping what Merck officials knew, when they knew it."



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Don't stand out in the cold too long, or else...

by Daniel Seeger '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Standing in line to listen to former President Clinton was pretty awful. I didn't have any money to buy a hotdog from the makeshift vendor walking up and down the line, I was losing in just about every road trip style trivia game, and I was wasting valuable time that could have been devoted to mastering Halo II. The worst part was listening to people constantly complain about how cold it was. Maybe I was just dressed a little warmer than my line mates, (although it was probably because I cut in line and avoided about an hour of waiting) but I just didn't find it all that cold nor did I find it necessary to whine about it every 2 minutes.

As I broke through my second hour of waiting, one of the people I was standing with told me that she had Raynaud's and made some kind of gesture towards her own hands. Unsure of what Raynaud's was, I assumed that is was probably either some sort of chocolate candy or fashionable clothing line, and replied with an unenthusiastic "Yeah right" and then proceeded with my impromptu calisthenics (maybe I was a little cold at that point).

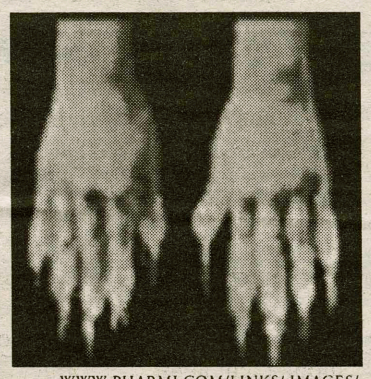
When we finally entered the "lecture hall," she took off her gloves, and to my surprise her fingers were more cyanotic than the blue Hamilton banner that lay above the stage. I asked what was wrong, and she told me again about Raynaud's and her poor circulation. Realizing that this term actually was not some sort of delicious snack, I was determined to investigate.

Raynaud's is a circulatory disorder that restricts blood flow to certain parts of the body. The fingers and toes are the most susceptible to the most severe effects of the disease, although symptoms are commonly seen in the nose and ears as well. It appears that men are at a reduced risk to the disorder. Between 60 and 90 percent of the reported cases occur in women aged 15 to 40 years old. Raynaud's can be classified in two different ways. Raynaud's disease, also known as primary Raynaud's, occurs in healthy individuals without underlying health issues. Raynaud's phenomenon, or secondary Raynaud's, is less common and occurs when an individual encounters symptoms of the disorder because of another disease. The most common diseases that bring about Raynaud's phenomenon are Scleroderma, Lupus, Rheumatoid arthritis, carpal tunnel syndrome, and other ailments that may affect the arteries.

When the body is exposed to cold, it has certain physiological responses in order to maintain homeostasis and protect the critical organs. Through the action of hormones, the arteries of the feet and hands will constrict and reduce the amount of blood that flows through the appendages. The hands and feet are the most susceptible parts of the body to heat loss due to their high surface-to-volume ratios, and the reduced amount of blood flow will diminish the amount of heat that is lost. This is the expected physiological response to any kind of cold exposure for a healthy body.

For people with any type of Raynaud's disorder, the typical artery constriction is unnecessarily escalated by spasmodic contractions in the arterioles. This exaggerated response may limit the blood supply of the hands and feet to dangerous levels depending on the duration and intensity of the cold exposure.

The signs and symptoms of Raynaud's may vary from person to person and in order of occurrence. Pallor, a whiteness of the skin, occurs in response to the collapse of the peripheral arteries in response to spasms. Once this happens, the extremities may not be getting enough blood and will turn cyanotic, or blue, due to the buildup of deoxygenated blood. The affected areas typically feel cold and numb. Once the arterioles are exposed to a warm environment, the vessels will relax and may turn the skin red as blood rushes through the arteries. This process may be painful or may induce a tingling



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It doesn't even get this cold in Clinton, NY.

feeling in the fingers and toes.

The most serious effects of Raynaud's may be prevented by paying close attention your lifestyle. You should avoid extended stays outdoors, and on the occasion that a Great Name comes to town, it is imperative to dress warmly. It is critical you not only sufficiently cover your hands and feet, but also your head, neck, and torso in order to reduce all modes of head loss. It has also been shown that smoking cigarettes may enhance the effects of the disorder, so smokers that are dangerously affected by the disorder should quit. Also, regular exercise will improve circulation and prevent the onset of Raynaud's.

There are also a number of medications that may be prescribed for the most serous cases. Medications are typically only prescribed for people with secondary Raynaud's because of the increased danger of that disorder. Calcium-channel blockers are a classification of drugs that relax the smooth muscle that control the flow of the blood through the vessel. Alpha blockers counteract the effect of norepinephrine, which typically causes the arteries to constrict. These drugs are often more effective to treat individuals with primary Raynaud's rather then those with secondary Raynaud's who have more pressing diseases that need to be treated.

So I guess I should have been a little more understanding of my diseased friend and her problematic extremities. I guess her wait was worth it anyway, if not for the long-anticipated speech then for the high class jazz. And perhaps in the future, her lifestyle change should be to drop her morals to the level of mine and cut in line more often.

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Roma's Supports all Hamilton College Athletics and Donates a Portion of Sales to Youth Educational and Athletic Organizations

Football loses battle of historic rivals, 29-13

by Andrew DeCastro '05
SPORTS EDITOR

The Hamilton football team lost to Middlebury last Saturday, 29-13 in the annual "Rocking Chair" game held at Steuben Field. This annual match against Middlebury, which has perhaps the most history of any NESCAC macthups, drew various Hamilton alumni to watch the game. Unfortunately, key mistakes early on caused Middlebury to capitalize quickly and jump out to a 21 point lead, a lead which Hamilton was unable to overcome.

Hamilton, on only its second play from scrimmage, fumbled the ball which Middlebury recovered on the Continental twenty-nine yard line. Less than two minutes later, Middlebury put it in the end zone through the air. The Panthers subsequently punched it in later on in the first quarter after previously completing a 42-yard pass, bringing it to Hamilton's one-yard line. The Continentals could not score in the first half, and trailed the Panthers by three touchdowns.

In the second half, however, Hamilton showed a little more life, scoring two touchdowns and preventing Middlebury from scoring any. Middlebury did have a couple of field goals and a safety late in the game. Joe Rinaldo '08 was probably the most effective offensive weapon for the Continentals. He finished with a season-high 10 catches for 87 yards including a 3-yard touchdown reception. Receiver Craig Cammarata '05 chipped in with four receptions for 53 yards. Quarterback Brandon Holtlsag '07 ran for a game-high 84 passed for 187 yards. Holtslag ended up with two touchdowns, one through the air and one on the ground.

Defensively, Matt Pitarresi '08 led the Continental defense with 13 tackles, five of them solo. Mike Murphy '05 chipped in with eight tackles and intercepted his first pass of the season. Except for a few minor mistakes, the Continental defensive unit arguably played the best football of the season, allowing a season low in points and in total yards. Even though the first touchdown is credited against the defense, being forced to defend a short field in the first defensive series of the game with a relatively inexperienced defense is a lot to ask.

Before the game, the Hamilton community honored the fourteen senior football players who were playing in their last home game. This being Pete Alvanos's fourth year as head coach, the graduating class is the first class Alvanos has the opportunity to see for their entire college careers. Alvanos commented on the significance of these seniors and their commitment and dedication to the football program at Hamilton.

"It's going to hurt me seeing these guys leave. I couldn't have asked for any more effort from them. The fact that I haven't helped them get more wins in their careers really gets at me. That's why this weekend is extremely important. I don't want them to leave this school knowing they have less wins than last year's senior class. I want them to end their career on a good note."

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Inconsistency has been the toughest opponent for the football team. The Continentals travel to Bates this weekend to try and end on a good note.

Despite being unable to take the rocking chair back from Middlebury, Alvanos was pleased with his team's effort.

"We competed hard, and I think it's on of the only games we've competed for four quarters. Aside from the turnover early in the game, it was anyone's game. We just couldn't catch a break. And sometimes that's all you need. Regardless, I told the guys after the game that I was proud with their effort. They left everything out there."

Alvanos also remarked that Hamilton won the second half against Middlebury, something he will build on this week in practice and into the game this Saturday.

That effort will need to continue this weekend when Hamilton travels to play Bates College in their final game of the season. Bates, currently last in the NESCAC, has not gotten a win this season. Hamilton, with only one win, needs to win this game to prevent them from being tied in last place. Bates will have plenty of motivation; they beat the Conts only a couple of years ago. Even though Bowdoin, who Hamilton beat, shut out Bates, the Conts are not taking this game for granted.

"Bates is going to come out with a lot of adrenaline. Not only do we need to match their intensity, but we need to surpass it. Our biggest problem this year is staying consistent. If we play fundamentally sound ball, eliminate turnovers, and play the way we're capable of playing, we can beat them. But if we let up, get too complacent, they will take advantage," said Rob "The Tank" Kuchar '05.

During the week, Hamilton puts together an offensive game plan based on the holes or weaknesses they detect from their opponents defense. This week the Continentals will have double tight end formations, with the quarterback under-center for the majority of the plays. Bates, regardless of the offensive formation, tends to stack the box with players. By adding an extra blocker into the formation, Hamilton can hopefully nullify Bates' extra players in the box. Even if Hamilton tried to spread the field out, Alvanos believes that Bates will still stack their players inside.

Defensively, Hamilton has positive things to build on during this week in practice. Alvanos mainly preaches for his defense to keep it simple:

"We are at our best when we keep it simple. Man on man, everyone has an assignment."

Hamilton's worst enemy this year seems to be itself. As is with "Jeckle and Hyde," sometimes you never know what team will show up on the field for four quarters. At times Hamilton's offense seems to click well, while the defense struggles. Last week the defense showed up, and the offense struggled in the first half. Consistency is the single most important factor this weekend. Hamilton has shown they can play; they have the ability to win games. The only question is: what team will show up this weekend?

Mens soccer earns automatic bid to national tournament, will play Williams in the second round

from **Soccer**, page 24

Tripicchio made no mistake putting the ball in the back of the net, giving Hamilton the Liberty League championship and the ultimate revenge over St. Lawrence.

"When you look at what kind of team St. Lawrence is at home, only losing three times there in the last eight or nine years," commented an ecstatic coach Nizzi, "and then look at the fact that we went up there unfazed by their reputation and beat them in the final. This is a team I am very proud of."

All along, Coach Nizzi insisted that this team's goal was to get to the playoffs and then to win ten games. From there, the team wanted to make an NCAA appearance. "The one way we were going to get to the NCAA's," reflected Nizzi, "was if our older players were going to show up and lead the way, and to say they simply led the way would be an understatement." It was the leadership of seniors Jake Shapiro, Robbie Wang, Michael Signorelli, and Cy Philbrick who led Hamilton into an atmosphere like St. Lawrence University and walked away champions. According to coach Nizzi, "[Hamilton] raised its games to a whole new level the last few weeks of the season."

The Continentals received a first round bye in the NCAA tournament and will travel to Williamstown, Massachusetts to take on the Williams College Ephs. Williams was able to capture the NESCAC crown for the 4th straight year and finished this past year with a 12-2-2 record. "All season long, we've taken it one game at a time and it's no different as we shift our focus to Williams College," commented Robbie Wang. "Williams is definitely one of the best teams in the nation, so we are doing everything we can to prepare for them on Saturday." The last Hamilton team to make it to the NCAA tournament was the 2000 squad that made it all the way to the elite eight in the tournament. Coach Nizzi didn't shy away when asked to compare the two teams. "If I had to single out one similarity between this team and the 2000 team," he said, "It would have to be the leadership both squads had, and not just with the seniors, but in the junior and sophomore classes as well."

There is no doubt that this Hamilton College soccer team has matured along the way as the season slowly unfolded. That is what championship teams do: they mature and get better as the year goes on. "This team has definitely matured a lot since our first game against SUNY IT," said Wang. "We have not only improved in our technical and tactical skills, but we also have grown closer together as a team. Wherever the season takes us from here, our cohesive group comprised of forty players, four coaches, two professors, and one trainer have made for a memorable year." Congratulations, guys, on a very memorable year and good luck in continuing the ride this coming weekend.

Weekend Athletic Schedule:

Friday November 12:
Mens hockey Buff 'n' Blue Scrimage 7 p.m., Sage Rink

Saturday November 13:
Football @ Bates 12 p.m.

Mens soccer @ Williams 1 p.m.

Womens soccer vs. Stevens IT 1 p.m., Love Field

Mens and Womens Cross Country NCAA Regionals @ St. Lawrence 11 a.m.

Womens hockey scrimage vs. NAHA 7 p.m., Sage Rink

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Goooooaaaaaaaalll!!!!!!!!!

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Mens and womens soccer both win Liberty League Championship in dramatic fashion

by Mike Hayes '06
SPORTS WRITER

Early in the season, the Hamilton College men's soccer squad fell in heartbreaking fashion at home to their arch-rival St. Lawrence, 2-1. However, depending on whom you ask, that game may have been the turning point in the Continentals' season. Last Friday, the Continentals traveled to Canton, NY to participate in a semifinal game against Union College in the Liberty League playoffs. Late Saturday afternoon, the Conts loaded the bus and headed back to Clinton with not only a Liberty League championship, but also the ultimate vengeance over St. Lawrence beating them on their own field in the Liberty League final. Senior captain and defensive stalwart Robbie Wang did his best to put the experience in words, saying, "after capitalizing on our second chance this year and finally beating [Saint Lawrence] after four years on our last opportunity for the senior class was an absolutely amazing experience. Words really cannot describe our happiness."

On Friday, the Continentals set the tone for the entire weekend as they dominated Union College in a 3-0 victory in the semifinal game. Ian Hildebrand '07 led the way for Hamilton scoring two goals. Anthony Tripicchio '06 played very well in goal earning his 7th shutout turning away all eight Dutchmen shots. St. Lawrence held up their end of the bargain, defeating Rensselaer 3-0 and setting up the much-anticipated championship showdown between the Saints of St. Lawrence and the Continentals of Hamilton.

The game was a defensive struggle throughout, with both teams being cautious and not wanting to make any costly mistakes. Tripicchio was up to his usual tricks, making several huge saves, most notably a diving stop with just sixteen minutes left in regulation to keep the Saints off the board. With the game ending in a scoreless tie, the Liberty League championship would be decided in shootout fashion. With each team being awarded five penalty kicks, Hamilton College outscored St. Lawrence 4-3 to claim the victory. Jake Shapiro '05, Patrick Suarez '07, and Benoit Brocard '06 all scored for the Continentals leaving the shootout tied at three apiece. It was at this point in the shootout where Anthony Tripicchio decided to take over. Tripicchio shut down St. Lawrence's final attempt by Evan Shutt and then, remarkably, took the last Hamilton kick himself.

see **Soccer**, page 23

by Andrew Dassori '07
SPORTS WRITER

History was made at Love Field this past weekend as the women's soccer team won the Liberty League title, clinching a spot in the NCAA tournament for the first time since the program was founded in 1981. The team edged out two excellent teams in Skidmore and William Smith to take home their first Liberty League trophy.

With their Liberty League championship victory, coach Gilligan felt the Continentals got what they deserved, stating "I think it reaffirmed the fact that we are a good team and have emerged in this conference as a solid contender. It showed that winning the regular season conference title was not a fluke." This day was a truly great one for the team, as they represented the college like they never have before.

In their first game of the conference tournament on Friday against Skidmore the team held strong throughout, winning by a final of 2-0. According to coach Gilligan, this score did not reflect the team's supremacy. "Overall offensively we dominated in the Skidmore game, without question," she said. Gillian added, "we were unfortunate not to score more goals, but their goalkeeper had an outstanding game." Goalscorers for the Continentals were Mara Dropkin-Frank '05 and Liz Roberts '06, two consistent and dedicated veterans who have led the team since the first practice. Defensively, there were no standouts as the team "dominated all over the field, and came to play at every position." Freshman Caitlin McGilley '08 got the start in net and earned her first career playoff shutout. This win led the Continentals to the conference championship game against perennial powerhouse William Smith.

In their game on Saturday, the Continentals fought hard despite poor field conditions from the previous day's inclement weather. After going down a goal, the freshman Nicole Tetreault '08 fired back, scoring her third goal of the season and bringing the game into two exciting overtime periods which ended on Kristine Cupertino '05's game-winner.

Coach Gilligan explained: "We were very unfortunate to go down a goal, and it knocked the wind out of us in a way. In the second half and the two overtime periods we played very well and were doing anything we could to score, and finally in the second overtime period we put one in." In the game, Liz Roberts once again was outstanding. According to Coach Gilligan, "she set a huge tone for us at central midfield. She was a huge factor, has come through for us all season and did an outstanding job." With McGilley's strong play in goal, the Continentals won the overtime contest 2-1.

The team has been ecstatic with their win, and must now prepare for their first NCAA tournament game against Stevens Tech (Hamilton had a bye in the first round of the tournament). Regarding their opponent, Coach Gilligan feels that "they are a strong team, and they have a couple of strong forwards, but if we come ready to play we should move on."

Unfortunately, practice has not been easy as of late. ""Its been pretty much a nightmare all week with weather and Bill Clinton coming," said Coach Gilligan, "but we look to focus in over the next couple of days and we will definitely be prepared, there is no question about that." The focus level is there, and now the Continentals have the opportunity to continue their stellar season with another piece of history for the program.

In all, Coach Gilligan said it best: "this reaffirms the emerging dominance of the program. I don't know if we had that respect at the beginning of season. We now must focus on the task at hand, and that is moving on in this tournament."